Record Group 104. Entry 11.

Correspondence with Branch Mints and Assay Offices, 1835-98.

New Orleans
1854

Digitized April 4-20, 2023, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Volumes in Box 36 for 1854-55 are shown in this table:

Folder Number	*Year*	*Title (As Written on Archives' Folders)*
1	1854	New Orleans, 1854 (Cont.)
2	1854	New Orleans, 1854 (Cont.)
3	1855	New Orleans, 1855
4	1855	New Orleans, 1855 (Cont.)
5	1855	New Orleans, 1855 (Cont.)

Note: Lightly printed and written text may be difficult to read in scanned version. Hidden words might be visible on the original pages. Larger (18+ inch) documents are scanned in multiple parts. Correspondence organization is presented as stored and is not always in chronological order.

RG 104 RECORDS OF THE
BUREAU OF THE MINT
U.S. Mint At Philadelphia,
1791-1936

Correspondence, 1792-1904

CORRESPONDENCE WITH BRANCH MINTS
AND ASSAY OFFICES, 1835-98

New Orleans, La.,
Branch Mint:
1854 - 1855

BOX NO. NC-152 E-11 HM1992
36

NEW ORLEANS, 1854 (CONT.)

U. S. Branch Mint, New Orleans.
30th June 1854.

Sir,

Please find enclosed the Weekly Statement of the Condition of this Branch Mint, at the close of the week ending 24th June 1854.

Very Respectfully
your obt. Serv.t
Ch. T. Renvenu
Supt.

James R. Snowden Esq.
Director U. S. Mint
Philadelphia

From Supt A. O.

Encl Treaty Stabunt

Aug 8. 1854

U. S. Branch Mint. New-Orleans.
July 7th 1854.

Sir

In compliance with your instructions contained in your letters of June 14 & 19, and according to usage, I have the honor to hand herewith the following documents to wit:

Abstract of Silver purchase profit & loss.
Bullion deposite profit & loss
Statements of the expenditures 2d. quarter of 1854
Statements of the expenditures 1st. quarter of 1854.
Statement of the deposites & Coinage during the Month of June 1854
Statement of the coins reserved for apaying during same period.

The apay coins are forwarded by this day mail.

I shall leave for the North on Tuesday the 11th inst. I intend to stay some days in the city of Washington, I suppose that I shall be at Philadelphia in the latter part of this Month, when I shall take great pleasure to spend seven or eight days.

Very respectfully your ob. Servt.
Chr. Keenan
Supt.

James R. Snowden Esq.
Director U. S. Mint
Philadelphia

Wm. Charles Bienvenu Esq
Supt. New Orleans

Transmit Semi-al Reports
& assay Certs,
Corrected Acct.
enclosed

July 17. 1854

July 1854

Mint of the United States.
Phil. July 17, 1884.

Sir,

Your letter of the 7th inst has been received with the enclosures stated, & also two packages containing the coins reserved at your Branch during the month of June for the annual assay.

I am, Very Respectfully
James Ross Snowden
Director.

Charles Bienvenu, Esq.
Supt. & Mint,
New Orleans.

U. S. Branch Mint. New-Orleans.
July 10th 1854.

Sir,

I hand herewith the Statements of the Condition of this Branch Mint, at the close of the weeks ending July 1st & July 8th 1854.

I shall positively leave for the North to-morrow at twelve o'clock.

I have appointed Dr. M. F. Bonzano, acting Superintendent during my absence. The interests of the Mint could not be put in better hands.

Very respectfully
your Obt. Serv.t
Ch. Dimmock
Supt.

James R. Snowden Esq
Director U. S. Mint
Philadelphia

From, Charles Dimeree Esq,
Supt. New Orleans
Mint

Transmits Monthly
Statements & Summaries
his intention of
Visiting the Mint

July 18th. 1854

U. S. Branch Mint,
New-Orleans July 15th. 1854.

Sir,

There is some demand for the three dollar gold piece, but as we have had no instructions as to their size, limits and mixing, they cannot be made, before we receive your instruction in that respect. In order to enable us to issue these new coins as early as possible, I have this day sent you a telegraphic dispatch, requesting information on these particulars.—

Very Respectfully
Your Obt. Servt.
M. F. Bonzano
Actng Supt.

Lieut. James Ross Snowden,
Director of the U. S. Mint
Philadelphia

P. S. Mr. Biennum left here on the 12th by the Southern route.

Tom. Acting Supt,
N Orleans
B Mint

Aug 22,

Respectfully transmit
a $3,

Mint of the United States.
Phil. July 17, 1854.

Sir,

In compliance with the act of 4th March 1853, I herewith present a quarterly statement of the expenditures of the Branch of the Mint of the United States at New Orleans, for the 2nd quarter 1854.

I have the honor to be,
With great respect,
Your faithful Servant.
A. M. Lindermann
Sup. the Director.

Hon. James Guthrie,
Sec. of the Treasury,
Washington.

Mint of the United States.
Philad.a July 17, 1854.

Sir,

In compliance with the act of 4th March 1853, c 97, I herewith present a quarterly statement of the Expenditures of the Branch of the Mint of the United States at Dahlonega

To. The Sec. of the Treasury
Washington City

Statement of Expenditures
of Bullion at New Orleans
2 Quarter 1834

July 7. 1834.

U. S. Branch Mint, New Orleans,
July 17th 1854.

Sir,

The coinage is in want of 12 half dollar head dies, and six hale-dies of the same denomination which I would request you to send.

I also have the honor to forward to you the customary statement, for the week ending on the 15th inst.

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Servt
A. F. Bonzano
Asstg Supt

Col. James Ross Snowden,
Director of the U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia.

From.
M. T. W. Borgano Esq.
Act. Supt. Bd. Maint.
N. Orleans

Requisition for dies

July 29. 1854

Directors Act.
endorsed

Mint of the United States.
Philad^a July 29th, 1834.

Sir,

Your letter of the 17th inst enclosing the customary weekly statement of the condition of your Branch of the Mint for the week ending on the 16th inst, and containing a requisition for dies has been received. Six head and six reverse half dollar dies will be forwarded by mail on monday, and the balance of your requisition as soon as completed.

I am, very Respectfully,

Director

M. F. Bonzano, Esq.
Acting Superintendent,
Br Mint. N. O.

U. S. Branch Mint,

New Orleans July 22d 1854.

Sir,

I would respectfully request you to send out, as early as possible, about 200 Carboys of Nitric acid.

Of the last shipment, 61 carboys were so badly damaged at sea, by being diluted with salt-water, as to render them unfit for use.

Very Respectfully

your Obt. Sr.t

A. F. Bonzano

Acting Supt

James Ross Snowden, Esq.

Director of the U. S. Mint.

Philadelphia.

From Dr V Bauzano
Supt. Br Mint
N.O.

Order for Assay

July 31, 1854.

Mint of the United States
Philada July 25. 1841.

Sir,

The bonds of Wm Kennedy and Benj Harker your Clerks, transmitted by you to the Treasury Department have been sent to me for my approval pursuant to the 2d Sect. of the act of March 3. 1835.

I beg leave to state that these bonds are objectionable in form. I enclose you blank bonds which you will cause to be executed and transmitted to me. I would be glad if you will send me some certificate of the sufficiency of the sureties.

I am very respectfully

James Ross Snowden
Director.

Jas. Brander Esq
Treasurer of the
Branch Mint at
New Orleans
La

Know all men by these presents that we Edward Von Harten and Frederick B. Von Harten of the City of New Orleans, State of Louisiana, are held and firmly bound unto the United States of America in the full and just sum of Five Thousand Dollars lawful money to be paid to the United States, for which payment well and truly to be made we bind ourselves, our heirs executors and administrators and each jointly severally and firmly by these presents, Signed with our hands and Sealed with our Seals and dated this 8th day of Jun in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifty four.

The condition of the foregoing obligation is such that whereas the Treasurer of the Branch Mint of the United States at New Orleans in the State of Louisiana hath pursuant to Law appointed the said Edward Von Harten to be the Weighing Clerk in the Treasurers Office of the Branch Mint of the United States at New Orleans. Now therefore if the said Edward Von Harten shall truly and faithfully execute and discharge all the duties of said office according to the Laws of the United States, then this obligation to be void and of none effect – otherwise to be and remain in full force and virtue.

Signed Sealed and delivered
in presence of

William Cornelius
Commissioner of the United States
in and for the Eastern District of
Louisiana.

Edward Von Harten
Fr. B. Von Harten

Know all men by these presents that we Martin G Kennedy and William E. Kennedy of the city of New Orleans, State of Louisiana, are held and firmly bound unto the United States of America in the full and just sum of Five thousand dollars lawful money to be paid to the United States, for which payment well and truly to be made, we bind ourselves, our heirs, executors and administrators and each jointly, severally and firmly by these presents.

Signed with our hands and sealed with our seals and dated this 12th day of July in the Year of our Lord one thousand Eight hundred & fifty four

The condition of the foregoing obligation is such that whereas James Brewer Treasurer of the United States Branch Mint at New Orleans in the State of Louisiana, hath pursuant to law appointed the said Martin G Kennedy to be the Chief Clerk in the Treasurer's office of said Branch Mint of the United States Now therefore if the said M. G. Kennedy shall truly and faithfully execute and discharge all the duties of said office according to the laws of the United States then this obligation to be void and of none effect, otherwise to be and to remain in full force and virtue.

Signed Sealed & delivered
in presence of

Robt M Luther

Henry A Gliddon

M G Kennedy

Wm E Kennedy

To,
Treas. R. Mint
at N. Orleans,

Enclosing Bearer Bonds,

July 26, 1854

U. S. Branch Mint,

New Orleans July 25th 1854.

Sir,

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letters of the 15th and 17th inst, the former inclosing six weights, one gauge and two copper planchets. I have also received your telegraphic dispatch, dated the 16th inst, in due time. I await your instructions as to the limits of the single piece and the 1000 pieces of the new 3 doll. coinage. At the request of the coiner I have authorised him to coin a small lot, adopting the limits of the 2½ doll. piece, under the condition however, that such pieces are not to be delivered to the Treasurer, before your orders to that effect are received.

The customary weekly statement is herewith inclosed.

Very Respectfully

Your Obt. Servt.

A. T. Bonzano

Acting Supt.

James Ross Snowden, Esq.

Director of the U. S. Mint,

Philadelphia.

From Ia.
Act. Supt. N. D
Br Mint

Standard Inscription
of new $3 coin

Aug 2, 1854

August 1854

Mint of the United States.
Philad.a Aug. 2. 1854.

Sir,

I have your letter of the 26th ult.o with the enclosure stated.

The three-dollar gold coin, provided for by sect. 7. of the Act of Febr 21, 1853, refers for its standards and limitations to previous enactments, in relation to gold coins. It must therefore be 900 thousandths fine, with an allowance of two thousandths above or below; and it must weigh 77 4/10 grains, with an allowance of one-quarter grain, above or below. In a large number of pieces, there is no specified allowance for deviation in weights; but the allowance of one pennyweight, above or below, in 1000 quarter-eagles, (Sect. 2. of the Act of January 18, 1837) would indicate a similar allowance, in a piece so nearly of the same value. If the pieces of this denomination of coin which have been struck at your Branch, are in accordance with these standards & limitations, you will permit them to be issued, if not you will please cause them to be recoined.

I am, Very Respectfully,
James Ross Snowden
Director

M.r A. Bonzano
Act. Supt. U.S. Mint. New Orleans

Mint of the United States,
Philad.a July 31, 1854.

Sir,

I enclose herewith Mr. Edelmans receipted bill in duplicate for expenses incurred in attending as a witness before the Commission for examination into the affairs of the Mint, for the payment of which a draft was ordered to be drawn in favor of him,

To,
M. T. Bonzano, Esq
Act Supt. Br Mint
New Orleans

Transmission of
12 Head & Lb. Lies
6 Tail " " "

Aug. 3, 1854,

U. S. Branch Mint,

New-Orleans Aug 1st 1854.

Sir,

The three-dollar blanchet which you sent out being exactly of the size prescribed by law, (1/20 of an inch), I am in doubt whether the edge of these coins is to be smooth or serrated, as in the latter case the pieces would be somewhat larger, if the planchets were worked to the size of the sample. It is possible that there is an error in the above diameter, which was so given in a newspaper, and I therefore respectfully request instructions on this point.

The usual weekly statement is herewith enclosed.

Very Respectfully

Your Obt. Servt.

A. F. Bonzano

Acting Supt.

James Ross Snowden, Esq.

Director of the U. S. Mint,

Philadelphia.

Mint of the United States.
Phil. Aug. 3, 1854.

Sir,

I have forwarded to you by the Mail of to-day the following dies, viz:

12 Heads - Half dollar die
6 Reverse " " "

I am very Respectfully,
James Ross Snowden
Director,

M.T. Morgan, Esq.
Act Supt. Br Mint,
New Orleans,

From & To.

Act. Supt,
N. Orleans

Respecting
Image of the
Dollar

Aug 9, 1834

Mint of the United States.
Phil, Aug. 9, 1834.

Sir,

I have your letter of the 1st inst. It will be requisite for the coiner to prepare the blanks for the three dollar piece of such a size as shall bear the proper amount of Milling to make the coin when struck with its ~~edge of the exact size~~ (16/100 of an inch) of the planchets heretofore sent.

I am very Respectfully,
James Ross Snowden.
Director.

G. F. Bongaus, Esq.
Act. Supt. Branch Mint
New Orleans.

U. S. Branch Mint, New Orleans Aug 8th 1854

Sir,

I would respectfully request you to communicate the amounts of the different appropriations for our branch for the fiscal year ending June 30th 1855, so that thereby we may be guided in making the necessary requisitions to meet the expenses of the past and present month,

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 29th ult.o, advising me of the transmission of dies.—

I enclose the usual statement for the week ending Aug. 5th.

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Servt
A. F. Bonzano
Acting Supt

James Ross Snowden, Esq.,
Director of the U. S. Mint.

Aug 14. 1854

From M. H. Bonzano Esq

Acty Supt U.S. Mint N. Orleans

Asking the Amounts of the

Different Appropriations for

the fiscal Year ending June 30. 1855.

Transmits the usual weekly

Statement

Statement of the Condition of the Branch Mint at New Orleans at the close of the week ending August 5th, 1854

Coinage account

		Dr.
Balance in Treasury at last settlement	$	783.001.01
Received since in Gold Coins	"	85.000.00
" " " Silver Coins	"	130.000.00
Total means for the week	$	998.001.01

Coinage account

		Cr.
Gold deposites paid during the week	$	5.004.32
Silver Bullion purchased during the week	"	7.426.91
Assay coins reserved	"	115.75
Balance in the Treasury	"	985.454.03
	$	998.001.01

Bullion account

			Dr.
Outstanding deposites assayed & payable but not demanded	Gold $ 4.289.34 Silver $ 8.242.62	$	12.531.96
Unassayed & uncalculated	Gold	"	5.000.00
Estimated deposites to be accounted for to private Depositors		$	17.531.96
Silver purchased for U States Bullion Fund		"	73.891.54
Add debt to U States for Bullion Fund		"	2.094.731.05
Total debt on Bullion account		$	2.186.154.55
Deduct balance in treasury as above		"	985.454.03
Difference being balance in course of Manufacture		$	1.200.700.52

Branch Mint U States New Orleans
Treasurer's Office August 5. 1854
James Brown
Treasurer

U States Br. Mint New Orleans

Weekly Statement of

James Brewer Treasurer

for the week ending August 5.

1854

U. S. Branch Mint, New Orleans Aug 4th 1854

Sir,

I have the honor to transmit to you by to-days mail two tin-boxes, containing the coins assayed for assay during the month of July, at this Branch Mint, a detailed statement of which, and a statement of the deposits and coinage for the same month, are herewith enclosed.

Very Respectfully,
Your Obt. Servt.
A. F. Bonzano
Acting Supt.

James Ross Snowden, Esq.
Director of the U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia.

Aug 14. 1854

Transmitting Coins Reserved for Assay during the Month of July

Also a detailed Statement of the same, and a statement of the Deposits & Coinage for July

Branch of the U States Mint, Phila
Treasurer's Office Aug. 9th 1854

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 25th ult. together with the accompanying bonds. The Judge of the U States District Court is now absent, and will not return until November, when the bonds shall be executed and immediately forwarded to you.

I am, Sir, very respectfully,
Your obedient Servant
James Brewer
Treasurer

To
James Ross Snowden Esq
Director Mint of the U. S.
Philadelphia

Aug. 16. 1854

From James Brewer Esq
Treas. of the Branch Mint
N. Orleans

Acknowledges the letter of the
Director of the 25th ult. enclosing
Bonds.

U. S. Branch Mint, New Orleans Aug 12th 1854

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 3d inst, and of the following dies, viz:

12 Quarters Half-Dollar dies
6 Reverse do.

Very Respectfully
Your Obt. Servt.
M. F. Bonzano
Acting Supt.

James Ross Snowden, Esqr.
Director of the U. S. Mints.

from Dr. Benjamin
Act Supt. Bellevue
N.Y.

A/R receipt of dues

Sept 4th 1854

U. S. Branch Mint,
New Orleans Aug 14th 1854.

Sir,

I transmit enclosed statement of the condition of this Branch Mint for the week ending Aug 12th 1854.

Very Respectfully
Your Obt. Servt.
A. F. Bonzano
Acting Supt.

James Ross Snowden, Esq.
Director of the U. S. Mint.

M. F. Bonzano, Ass Supdt.
Branch U.S. Mint,
New Orleans.

Dated 6 Aug: 14th.

Rec'd Aug: 22nd.

Inclosing Statement for
week ending August 12th.

Mint of the United States:
Philadelphia, August 19th., 1814.

Sir:

The "Civil and Diplomatic Appropriation Bill" passed at the late Session of Congress makes the following Appropriations for your Branch.

"For salaries of Superintendent, Treasurer, assayer, coiner, "melter and refiner, and three clerks, seventeen thousand, three "hundred dollars.

"For wages of workmen, in addition to other available funds, "thirty two thousand, six hundred and seventeen dollars and "forty five cents;

"For Wastage and incidental expenses, in addition to other "available funds, seventy thousand and eighty-two dollars and "fifty five cents;

"For rebuilding portions of the walls and complete repairs "of the building of the branch mint at New Orleans, thirty seven thou "sand dollars."

I send this for your guidance in making requisition upon the Department for the current expenses of your Branch Mint for the present year.

I am, very respectfully,
Sam. Roy Snowden
Director.

M. P. Bonzano, Esq.,
Asst. Superintt. U.S. Branch Mint,
New Orleans.

To / M. E. Bonzano Esqr.
Actg Supert N. A. Branch Mint
August 19th, 54.

Stating the appropriations for that Branch for the present Fiscal year.

U. S. Branch Mint, New-Orleans
August 21st 1854.

Sir,

I have the honor herewith to transmit to you the statement of the condition of this Branch for the week ending August 19th 1854.

Very Respectfully
Your Obt. Servt.
M. F. Bonzano
acting Supt.

James Ross Snowden, Esqr.
Director of the U. S. Mint

From/ Supt: U. S. Branch Mint
New Orleans.

Dated Augt: 21/1854

Recd: Augt: 29th:

Enclosing weekly Statement
to Augt: 19th:

Mint of the United States:
Philad:, August 21st, 1854.

Sir:

I send you herein enclosed, Bill of lading, in duplicate, for Two hundred carboys of Acid, shipped upon the "West Wind," as therein stated, and consigned to your Branch Mint, for which Messrs. Lennig & Co. have rendered their bill, amounting to $1,901.95

The Balance in my hands in your favor is . . . 674.12

Amount required to pay Lennig & Co's bill . . 1227.83

Balance ordered for your Branch (which will be completed in about three weeks) will cost . . . 1,200.00

Exc for Bandonisation thereof, about, ... 20.00

Amount required to meet forthcoming bills: . $2447.83

which you will cause to be placed in my hands at your early convenience, to make the required payments.

I am, with respect,
Yours, &c:,

James Ross Snowden
Director

M. A. Bonzano, Esq;
Asst Supt Branch Mint
New Orleans, La:

To/ Asst Supt N.O. Brch. Mint.

Aug: 21st, 1854.

Enclosing Duplicate Bill of Lading for 200 carboys of Nitric acid per "West Wind" - Statement of Apt and requiring means to pay for said acid and "Balance" ordered for Brch. Mint.

U. S. Branch Mint,
New Orleans, Aug 30th 1854.

Sir,

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letters of the 19th and 21st inst; the latter inclosing bills of lading for Two hundred cankays of Ams. I shall, in a few days make a requisition upon the Secretary of the Treasury for the amount necessary to cover the expenses of this quarter, and shall then take occasion to request him to place a sufficient sum into your hands, to pay outstanding bills.

I enclose herewith the usual statement for the week ending the 27th inst.

Very Respectfully,
your Obt Servt
L. F. Bonzano
Actng Supt.

James Ross Snowden, Esqr.
Director of the U. S. Mints

From.

M. T. V. Bonyaus Miss

Act. Supt. Ft. Mouth

N. O.

States that he intends

making acquisition

on Sec'y of Treasury for

means to pay ordinary

Expenses, &c

Sept. 7, 1854

New-York Hotel. New-York. Sept. 1st 1854.

My dear Sir,

When I left Philadelphia, I went to Springfield, and was very much pleased to see that our New-Engine was on his way of completion, After having given my instructions to Mr. Eyre, we came to the agreement that the Engine will be sent to New-Orleans on or about the first of November. I am very satisfied with the work and am confident it will meet our purposes.

After having visited different parts of the United-States and Canada, I return to New-York where I am now. I had the pleasure to call upon Mr. Dutton yesterday at the Spring Office, which is far from being Completed.

It was my intention to leave day after to-morrow in order to be in New-Orleans on the 12th inst. the day on which my leave of absence will cease, but being desirous to go by the Steamer Black Warrior on the 9th inst, in order to have the satisfaction to see Havana, I will respectfully ask you the permission to do so. It will be a difference of

five days only, having the hope to be in New-Orleans on the 17th inst.

I have received a letter this morning from the Branch Mint. N. O; every thing is right.

With the hope of a favorable answer, I, Remain, Dear Sir,

your most Obt Servant.

Ch. Bienvenu

Col. James R. Snowden.
Director U. S. Mint
Philadelphia.

From To

Chas Bierwen Esq

Supt Br Mint N.O.

asks further leave of
absence to take Havanna
in his way home

Request granted.

Sept 2. 1854

September 1854

Mint of the United States
Philada Sept 2, 1854.

My dear Sir

I have just learnt of your arrival and most thankfully acquiesce in your wish to take Havana en route to New Orleans.

I am glad to learn that your new engine will be prepared to go on the first of November, and that the work is being done in a satisfactory manner.

Hoping that you may have a pleasant and safe journey to your home

I am, dear Sir,
with much respect
very truly your friend,

James Pollock
Director.

Charles Binney Esq
New York Hotel
New York.

P.S. I send to you for Mr Bondano a pamphlet on currency for him from Paris. When you call please deliver to him. J.P.S.

Mint of the United States.
Philada Sept 4, 1854.

Sir.

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 4th inst with the enclosures stated, & also a package containing the coins received at your branch during the month of July for the Annual Assay. This letter was accidentally mislaid hence the delay in acknowledging its receipt.

I am, Very Respectfully,

Master.

Dr. Mr. F. Bonzano.
Asst Supt Branch Mint,
New Orleans.

To,

M. T. Bryant Esq
Act Supt Br Mint
N.O

Acknowt of Report
Assay bars for Indep

Sept. 4. 1854

U. S. Branch Mint,
New Orleans Sept 4: 1854.

Sir,

I send you by to-day's mail the coins issued for assay, at this branch, during the month of August, and inclose herewith a detailed statement of the same, and also "statement of deposits and coinage" for the same month.

Very Respectfully
your Obt Servt.
A. F. Bonzano
acting Supt.

James Ross Snowden, Esq.
Director of the U. S. Mints

From,
M. T. Dugans M.D.
Act. Supt. Bard Mint
New Orleans

Assay Coins
& Report for
August

Sept. 11, 1854

U. S. Branch Mint

New Orleans Sept 5th 1854.

Sir,

I have the honor herewith to enclose the usual statement for the week ending the 2d inst.

Very Respectfully

Your obt Servt

M. F. Bonzano

acting Supt.

James Ross Snowden, Esq.

Director of the U. S. Mint

From, M. L. Bugeaud M.D
Act Supt. F.O. Ba Mis

Sept. 13, 1854,

Mint of the United States.
Sept. 11th 1854.

Sir.

I am called upon to present to the Treasury Department the annual estimates for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1856. I have to request that you will without delay send me an estimate of the probable amount required for your Branch of the Mint embracing the Salaries of Officers, wages of workmen and all other expenses.

You will send the estimates on foolscap paper with margins of at least one inch in width.

I am, Very Respectfully,
James Ross Snowden
Director.

To M. F. Bonzano
Act. Supt. U.S. Mint
New Orleans.

Mint of the U. S.
Philada Pa. [illegible]

Sir,

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 27th inst with the enclosed Draft and also a package containing the coins received at your Branch during the month of August for the Annual Assay.

I am, Very Respectfully,
James Pollock Superintendent

Lt. M. J. Bonzano
Act. Asst. Dr. Mint.
New Orleans.

To. Ab't L. Langano Esq
A.S. Supt U.S. Mint
N O,

Ac. receipt of monthly Report
& assay bars for August

Annual Estimates,
2. Letters
Sept. 11, 1854

Treasury Department
September 12 1854

Sir,

A letter received this day from Lt. Bonzano & Lt. Superintendt of the Branch Mint at New Orleans contains the request that a sum of $3000 may be remitted to you on account of Expenditures for that Branch of the Mint. This fact will explain the Object of a remittance of the sum of $3000. which I have this day directed to be made to you.

Very Respectfully Sir
Your obt. Servt.
James Guthrie
Secretary of the Treasury

James R. Snowden Esq.
Director of the Mint
Philadelphia

From Hon. James Guthrie
Sec. of the Treasury

Transmits $3000 on behalf
of Br Mint New Orleans

Sept. 13th 1854

U. S. Branch Mint,
New Orleans Sept 13th 1854.

Sir,

On the 5th inst I made a requisition upon the Secretary of the Treasury for the sum of $17.325, required to defray our expenses during the present quarter, and requested him to Transmit to you, besides, the sum of Three Thousand Dolls, to pay expenses accrued on our account.

I herewith enclose the usual statement for the week ending on the 9th inst.

Very Respectfully
Your Obt. Servant,
H. F. Bonzano
Acting Supt.

James Ross Snowden, Esq
Director of the U. S. Mints

From M. H. Bonjaw Esq
Act Supt Br Mint
N Orleans

Enclosing Monthly
Statement

Sept. 19. 1854

U. S. Branch Mint.
New-Orleans. Sept. 19th 1854.

Sir,

I have the honor herewith to enclose the usual Statement of the Condition of this Branch Mint at the close of the week, ending 16th 1854.

Very respectfully
your obt. servt.
Chs. Bienvenu
Superintendent.

Prof. James R. Snowden.
Director of the U. S. Mint
Philadelphia

From Ch. Bienvenu Esq
Supt Bx Mint
N O

Weekly Statement
Sept. 27. 1854

U. S. Branch Mint. New-Orleans
23rd of September 1854.

Sir.

As the new System of paying for Silver bullion may possibly require some alterations in the forms now used at this Mint, please send me such instructions as may be necessary for our guidance.

Very respectfully
your ob. Serv.
Ch. Bienvenu
Supt.

Col. James R. Snowden
Director of the U. S. Mint
Philadelphia

From & To
C. Bierbower Esq
Sept. 12 1854
A. C.

Paying for Silver

Oct. 2, 1854

October 1854

Mint of the United States.
Philad.a Oct. 2, 1854

Sir.

In reply to your letter of the 20th ult.
I have to state that the new system of
keeping the Mint accounts only to
this month, has not been completed so as
to be reconciled with the Treasury & Warrant
books, & so for the Warrant Transcripts.

I am, very Respectfully

Your

Obt. Servt.

Chas. W. Simons, Esq.
Supt. Mint
New Orleans

Mint of the United States.
Philad.a Sept. 28, 1854.

Sir,

Late on Saturday last 23d inst. I received your despatch of the 21st inst. in which you ask the following question "When paying one dollar twenty two & a half cents per ounce of standard fineness, eg it on the gross weight before or after making the calculation as made". To which I replied by Telegraph "Price for Silver at branches not changed - will write you". I have now to state that the last Circular on the subject of prices made no change in that to be paid at the branches, and therefore you are only authorized to purchase under the Circular of the 20th of December last.

I send for your information a copy of my last Circular but it only relates to this Mint.

You ask for me write to you and state the amount of uncoined Silver on hand, and demands on the weekly Statements, after the words "differences in Bullion in course of

New York, Philadelphia & N. Orleans Telegraph

DIRECT.

Office, 97 Chesnut Street,

SECOND FLOOR,

PHILADELPHIA.

Sunday Hours—8 to 10, A. M., and 7 to 10, P. M.

Brown Pr. Ledger Building

The following communication has been received:

Dated New Orleans Sept 21st 1854

Director of the Mint

When paying one dollar
twenty two & half per
cent per ounce of
Standard fineness is it
on the gross weight
before or after melting
the Calculation is made

Chas. Brenvence
Supt

Charles Bienvenu Esqr
Supt. Branch Mint,
New Orleans.

Philada
Sept 23, 1854

~~Rec'd price for silver at New Orleans~~

~~Will write on Monday. Price for silver not changed at New Orleans. Will write Monday~~

Price for silver at Orleans not changed. Will write you

S. R. S.

Gold $2.30

From & To

Chs Pierson Esq

Supt. Bk Mint

New Orleans

D/D on Subject of

price for Silver

and by D/D of

Letter as within

Sept 25, 1854

U. S. Branch Mint. New-Orleans.
25th Sept. 1854.

Sir.

Please find enclosed Statement of the Condition of this Branch Mint at the Close of the week ending on the 23d September 1854.

Very Respectfully
your obt. Servt.
Chs. T. Brenneman
Supt.

Col. James R. Snowden.
Director U. S. Mint
Philadelphia

From.
Chas. Lemeun Esq
Supt. Br Mint
New Orleans

Monthly Statements

Oct 4. 1852

Statement of the condition of the Branch Mint at New Orleans, at the close of the week ending on the 23d September 1854

Coinage acct.		Dr.
Balance in the Treasury at last settlement	$	1.377.001.18
Rec'd Silver Coins	"	50.000.00
" Gold Coins	"	15.000.00
Total means for the week	$	1.442.001.18

Coinage acct		Cr.
Silver Bullion purchased during the week	$	1.716.29
Assay coins reserved	"	25.00
Balance in the Treasury	"	1.440.259.89
	$	1.442.001.18

Bullion acct.			Dr.
Outstanding deposits payable but not demanded	Gold $ 5.953.80		
	Silver $ 4.506.50	$	10.460.30
Unassayed dep's	Gold	"	4.000.00
Estimated deposits to be accounted for to private depositors		$	14.460.30
Silver purchased for U.S. Bullion Fund		"	122.255.43
Add debt to U.S. for Bullion Fund		"	2.094.731.05
Total debt on Bullion Account		$	2.231.446.78
Deduct Balance in Treasury as above		"	1.440.259.89
Difference being Balance in course of Manufacture		$	791.186.89

U.S. Br. Mint, New Orleans
Treasurer's Office Sept. 23d 1854

James Brewer
Treasurer

Mint of the United States.
Philada Sept 29. 1854.

Sir,

I enclose bill of lading for the balances belonging to the branch of the Mint. The vessel will sail in a few days and I hope it will arrive in good order.

I inspected the balances and weights and you will have accurate and admirably made.

I am very Respectfully

Saml R. Snowden
Director.

Charles Bienvenu Esq
Supt. Branch Mint
New Orleans.

P. S. I am happy to learn by your favor of the 19th inst that you had reached home in safety and found all things Correct at the Mint. The A/c of your expenses will claim my early attention on its reception at the department.

Yours truly, S. R. Snowden.

To. A. Biedenna Esq
Supt. B. Mint
New Orleans

Enclosing Bill
of Jas. Jr
Scales on

Sept. 29, 1854

U. S. Branch Mint, New-Orleans.
October 4th 1854.

Sir,

We have received an account, from Adams & Co. against this Branch Mint for Twenty seven hundred & fifty dollars, for transportation and insurance of three hundred thousand dollars in Silver Coins, from New-Orleans to St. Louis, being proceeds of Transfer Drafts, Nos. 508 & 554, drawn on our Mint in favor of the Asst Treasurer of St. Louis.

The Contract for this transportation was not made with this Branch Mint, and our Connection with the transfer was simply to pay the Drafts. I am of opinion that the above bill can only be paid at this Branch Mint by an order from you. Please inform me.

The act of Feb'y 21. 1853, entitled "An act amendatory of existing laws relative to the half Dollar, quarter dollar, Dime & half Dime" provides for the distributing of said coins, under general regulations, proposed by the Director and approved by the Sec'y of the Treasury". The "regulations" are not in our possession. I will be obliged to you to send me directions in regard to this matter.

Very respectfully,
your obt. Serv't.
Chas. Bienvenu
Sup.

Col. James R. Snowden
Director U. S. Mint. Phil.a

From. C. V. Bierwem. Esq.
Supt. U.S. Mint
At Orleans

Transmit Semi-annual
Statements, & Assay
Certificates for Sept.
Quarter as
to paying Adams
& Co. Bill for Hauling
Silver Coins

Oct. 12, 1854

U. S. Branch Mint, New-Orleans.
October 4. 1854.

Sir,

I have received your letter of the 25.th ult. with instructions relative to the Price of Silver at Branches. We shall continue to purchase under the circular of the 21.st of December last.

The amount of uncoined Silver on hand on Sept. 30.th 1854. is Oz. 555.828.63. @ 412½ grains to the Dollar = $ 646.782.40.

Your instructions concerning the weekly Statements shall hereafter be observed.

Our best machinist of the Coining department died last week of yellow-fever. On account of the City being so unhealthy, it will be difficult if not impossible to find an efficient man to fulfill his place before the first of November.

Very respectfully
Your obt. serv.t
Chr. Brenneman
Sup.t

Col. James R. Snowden Esq.
Director U. S. Mint. Phil.a

U. S. Branch Mint N. Orleans
October 4th 1854.

Sir,

I have the honor to present the quaterly Statement of the expenditures of this Branch Mint for the quarter ending on the 30th of September 1854.

Incidental & Contingent expenses	$ 6.168.33
Wages of Workmen	8.103.94
Salaries of officers & Clerks	4.825.00
	$ 18.897.17

Very Respectfully
your obt Servant
Ch. Nonvenu
Supt

Col. James R. Snowden
Director U. S. Mint
Philadelphia

U. S. Branch Mint. New Orleans.
October 4th 1854.

Sir,

I send herewith Statements of the deposits and Coinage at this Branch Mint, for the Month of September 1854, and of Coins reserved for assaying during the same period.

The assay Coins will be forwarded by this day's mail.

Most respectfully,
Ch. Bienvenu
Supt.

Col. James R. Snowden
Director U. S. Mint
Philadelphia.

Statement of **Gold** *and* **Silver** *Coins received for assaying at the Branch Mint of the United States, New Orleans, during the month of* Septemebr 1854

Date.		Deliveries.	Deliveries.	Pieces.	Value. Dollars.	Cts.	Total Value. Dollars.	Cts.
1854		Gold						
Sept.	22	Three Dollar Pieces	5000	5	15	00		
	30	do " do	8000	8	24	00		
							39	00
		Silver						
Sept.	7	Half Dollars	100.000	20	10	00		
	13	do do	100.000	20	10	00		
	16	do do	100.000	20	10	00		
	23	do do	100.000	20	10	00		
	30	do do	100.000	20	10	00		
	"	do do	100.000	20	10	00		
							60	00
					Dollars.		99	00

Branch Mint U. S. New Orleans
Treasurer's Office Sept. 30th. 1854
James Thwaites
Treasurer

D. H. Millspaugh
Assayer

James Brewer Treas.r

New Orleans Sept.r 30. 1854

Statement of Gold and Silver coins received for assay during Sept.r 1854

U.S. Branch Mint. New Orleans
October 7th 1854.

Sir,

I enclose herewith Grounds of the Estimates of this Branch Mint. for the fiscal year ending 31. June 1856.

I have received your letter of 29 ult. with the bill of lading for the balance for our Mint. I hope it will arrive in good order.

Very Respectfully
your obt. Servt.
Chas. Brenneman
Supt.

Col. James R. Snowden
Director U.S. Mint
Philadelphia

Wm. Charles Brennan Esq
Supt Mt Hist
N. O.

Transmits Synopsis of Estimates
for Yr 1886.

Oct 16, 1884

NEW ORLEANS, 1854 (CONT.)

U. S. Branch Mint, New-Orleans.
October 11th 1854.

Sir,

I hand herewith Duplicate abstracts of Silver Purchase Profit & Loss, and Bullion Deposit Profit & Loss accounts for the Third Quarter of 1854.

Very Respectfully
your humble Servant.
Chas. Bienvenu
Supt.

Col. James R. Snowden.
Director U. S. Mint
Philadelphia

U. S. Branch Mint. New Orleans.
October 11th 1854.

Sir.

I herewith inclose Statement of the Condition of this Branch Mint for the weeks ending 30th September 1854, and 7th of October 1854.

Very respectfully
your obt Servt
Chas Bienvenu
Supt.

Col. James R. Snowden
Director U. S. Mint
Philadelphia

From Supt R.L. Smith
N. Orleans

Transmits Semi
Statement

Oct. 19, 1870

Mint of the United States
Philada Oct 12. 1844.

Sir,

In conformity with the act of 4th March 1837, c 37 I present a quarterly statement of the expenditures of the Branch of the Mint at New Orleans, for the quarter ending 30th Sept 1844.

I have the honor to be,
with great respect
Your faithful Servant.

Snowden.

Hon. James Guthrie
Sec. of the Treasury.
Washington.

To
Hon. I. Guthrie
Sec. of the Treasury
Washington

Quarterly Statement
of expenditures B.R.
Bond No D,

Oct 12, 1854

Mint of the United States.
Philada Oct 12, 1854.

Sir,

I have received your favour of the 9th inst with the enclosures stated, and also two pamphlets containing the Coins ordered at your branch during the month of September for the annual Assay.

The expenses incurred in distributing these Coins are to be paid out of the profits on the Silver Coinage. You will therefore pay the bill of Messrs Adams & Co. referred to in your letter, charge the Amount thereof paid to "Silver Profit & Loss" and credit the same to "Silver Coinage"

I enclose some Circulars relative to putting the Balance Assay sent to you branch together. They were handed to me by the Assay Commissioners with a request that the same might be transmitted to you.

If the Estimate asked for a few weeks since has not been sent please forward them at your earliest convenience.

A. L. Elmore

To. Charles Bentem. Esq
Supt Br Mint
N O

Ack receipt of
Assay bars (Sep.)
& Statements

Expenses of distributing
Silver to be paid out
of Profits on Silver Coinage

Oct. 12, 1854

U. S. Branch Mint
New Orleans. Oct. 12. 1854.

Sir.

Your letter of 2d inst. is at hand. According to your instruction therein contained, I will continue to purchase Silver bullion in accordance with your Circular of 31st December last and pay for the same as heretofore.

I am very respectfully
Ch. A. Bienvenu
Supt.

Col. James R. Snowden
Director U. S. Mint
Philadelphia

Fm.

Charles L Bienvenu Esq

Supt. U.S. Mint

New Orleans

as to purchase

of Silver bullion in

accordance with

instructions of

Secy, last

21st Oct. 1854

Treasury Department
October 16. 1854.

Sir

The Assistant Treasurer at N. Orleans has, "under instructions received from the Director of the Mint" placed to the credit of the Treasurer of the U.S. the sum of $910.99- being the amount of sundry deposits of Silver bullion by individuals remaining unclaimed. Be pleased to state whether such instances have occurred at the Mint, and if so, what disposition has been made of the sums unclaimed. I enclose a receipt from Majr. Adams U.S. for a package containing 21 pieces of Gold weighing 3. Oz. 05 dwts - 2½ Sovereigns - One 30/100 Dollar in So. American Coin and two 95/100 Dolls. in U.S. Coins - Be pleased to have the Nett value placed to the credit of the Treasurer U.S. as a deposit by J. W. Ward Esqr. U.S. at Panama on a/c of the estate of John Cooper a deceased American Citizen

I am very Respt.

P. H. Washington
Act. Sec. Treasury.

J. R. Snowden Esq
Director of Mint Phila

Transd to

The Act. Sec of the Treas

~~Washington~~

as to Silver parted from
bullion Lyed in 1850
at N. O. By Mint

Lyed Sent by Adams
& Co. Express

Oct 17, 1854.

October 17. 40.

Sir

I have received your letter of the 12th inst. with the enclosures stated.

In explanation of the transaction referred to in your letter, I may state that Silver parted from the Deposits of California Gold at the Branch Mint at New Orleans during the year 1853 was not (as it should have been) paid to those persons from whose deposits it was parted. In April last a letter from the Treasurer of that Branch to the 1st Auditor of the Treasury on the subject of the proper disposition of this Silver, was referred to me by that Officer, when I instructed the Superintendent to cause the same to be paid into the Treasury of the U.S. A copy of these instructions is herewith enclosed.

No Silver of this character has ever accumulated at this Mint it being always the practice to pay the depositor the Silver in question.

I have received the Gold sent per Adams & Co Express, the proceeds of which as soon as ascertained will be disposed of as directed in your letter, and a Statement of the Amount transmitted to you.

U. S. Branch Mint, New-Orleans.
Oct. 19th 1854.

Sir.

This morning I have received your letter of the 12th inst.

The bill of Messrs. Adams & Co will be paid according to your instructions.

The estimates asked for have been sent since the 7th inst. and hope are at hand.

I am, very respectfully
Chr. Bienvenu
Supt.

Col. James R. Snowden,
Director U. S. Mint
Philadelphia

Trans.
Supt N. Orleans

Payment of Adams
& Co. Bill

Oct 26 1854

October 4.

Sir,

In reply to your letter of the 2d inst. I have to inform you that proper authority was given for the appointment of Messrs Bonzano & Mellon as Coiners of the Branch Mint, New Orleans, & act in the capacity named to by You.

Very Respectfully,
Your Obt Servant,

Lincoln.

S. L. Smith, Esq
1st Auditor Treasury
Washington City.

Treasury Department
First Auditor's Office
October 26th 1854

Jas. Ross Snowden Esq
Director of the U.S. Mint
Philadelphia

Sir:

In the examination of the Acts of Gold & Silver Bullion of the Branch Mint at New Orleans I find that nearly all of the Superintendents to pay for Gold Bullion deposited during the 3rd Quarter 1854, are signed by M.F. Bonzano Melter & Refiner as acting Superintendent.

As the authority to appoint an acting officer of the Mint and Branches is vested in the Director by law I will thank you to inform me if such authority was given in this case

Very Respectfully
Your obt. Svt
J. L. Smith
Auditor

From & To
T. S. Smith Esq
1st Auditor
Treasury
Washington

Enquires as
to authority for
M. F. Bongard appointment
as Act Sept 1st
Mont Ter.

Oct 27, 1854

U. S. Branch Mint, New Orleans
November 4. 1854.

Sir.

You will please receive herewith Statements A deposits & Coinage, and of Coins received for assaying at this Branch during Oct 1854.

The assay Coins will be forwarded by this day's mail.

Very Respectfully
your obt. Serv.
Chas Bienvenu
Supt.

Col. James R. Snowden.
Director U. S. Mint
Philadelphia

From Supt A. O.
B Mint
Transmits Assay
Coins & Monthly
Report for Oct.

Nov 11, 1854

U. S. Branch Mint. New Orleans.
November 6th 1854.

Sir,

Enclosed is the Statement of the Condition of this Branch Mint at the close of the month ending on the 4th November 1854.

Very respectfully.

Ch. L. Bienvenu
Sup.t

Col. James R. Snowden
Director U. S. Mint
Philadelphia

From
Charles V Binnemy Esq
Supt. 1st Div Mins
A O

Recd by Stalemon

Jan 13, 1854

Nov. 10, 42.

10,

I have received your letter of the 4th inst. with the copy of the Commissioners Report and the papers containing the Court martial of Lieut. Hunter for the Charges & Specifications.

I am, very Respectfully,
Your Obt. Servt.
Thos. Jefferson
Secretary

Thomas Jefferson, Esq.
Secretary of War
City of Washington

To
Supt. N. Mexico Ry Mail

Receipt of Assistant's
Monthly Report for
October

Nov 11, 1854

December 1854

Mint of the U. S. Phila Nov 15, 1853

Dear Sir

I have examined the impression from one of the half dollar dies at New Orleans Branch, enclosed to you by the acting Superintendent; and I think it presents a somewhat irregular convexity on the face of the die, resulting no doubt from the hardening process. Whether the difficulty could have been obviated by a change in the radius on which it has been ground (a course which at times has been found necessary in our operations here) I cannot determine with certainty in the absence of the die. Under present circumstances, it may be proper that the die should be returned or cancelled at your option

The selection of the steel used for the dies, has, I believe been confided mostly if not always to Mr Geo: Eckfeldt foreman of the Coining department, and no one better knows the importance of having it of the best, and of uniform quality, as far as that object is attainable. Nor is there any reason to suppose he would have used any that he knew or suspected to be inferior or defective

Very Respectfully

James B. Longacre
Engraver

J. R. Snowden Esqr
Director of the Mint

Wm. J. B. Langacre Esq
Engraver of the Mint

Bds. Jr. New Orleans Branch Mint

13th Nov. 1838.

U. S. Branch Mint, New Orleans.
15th Nov. 1854.

Sir,

Please find enclosed the Statement of the condition of this Branch Mint at the close of the week ending on the 11th of Nov. 1854.

I have had the misfortune to lost three members of my family in less than thirteen days. The last one day before yesterday. This will be sir. I hope an apology for my not sending this weekly Statement sooner.

Very Respectfully
your obt. servt.
Chs. Bienvenu
Capt.

Col. James R. Snowden
Director U. S. Mint
Philadelphia

From Supt. Branch Mint
New Orleans.
Dated Nov: 16/57.

Rec'd Nov: 22.

Enclosing weekly statement to 14th inst:

Death in Supt's family cause for not sending statement sooner.

U. S. Branch Mint.
New Orleans 21st Nov. 1854.

Sir.

You will find enclosed the Statement of the Condition of this Branch Mint at the Close of the week ending on the 18th of November 1854.

The following dies shall be required for the Coinage of 1855

Gold Coinage

Double Eagle	4	Heads	00	Reverses
Eagle	4	"	00	"
Half Eagle	4	"	00	"
Quarter Eagle	6	"	00	"
Three Dollars	4	"	4	"
Gold Dollar	6	"	6	"

Silver Coinage

Half Dollar	20	Heads	20	Reverses
Quarter Dollar	12	Heads	12	"
Dime	6	"	00	"
Half Dime	6	"	00	"

Very Respectfully
Your Obt. Servt
Chas. Blanchard
Supt.

Col. James R. Snowden
Director U. S. Mint. Phila

Trm. Supt. Br Mint at N.

Requisition for Dies
for 1835.

Nov 29, 1834

Resp. to Mr. Longacre

November 22d 1

Sir,

I have prepared with the approval of the Secretary of the Treasury general regulations for the Mint, Branch Mints and Assay Office, a copy of which I herewith transmit to you, and have to request that you will cause them to be enforced in your institution.

It is intended by these regulations to prevent the adoption of such other measures for the security of the precious metals, as your experience may suggest or the peculiar arrangement of your branch may require. On the contrary, I recommend the adoption of such further regulations as may promote, in your judgment, faithfulness and accuracy in the operations of your institution, and guard the public interests, as well as those of the depositors, confided to your Superintendency & charge.

I am, very respectfully,
Your Obt.

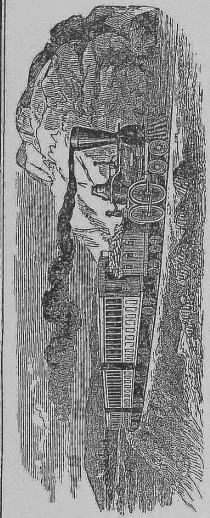
Director

Jno. Ked Bienvenue, Esq:,
Superintendent of
Branch Mint at
New Orleans, La.

To/ Supdt. Branch Mint,
New Orleans.

Nov. 22, 1864.

Transmitting "General Regulations." (& a copy of which see letter to Sec. of Treas. dated 14th. inst.)



ADAMS & CO.'S OFFICES.

116 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia. 59 Broadway, New York.
84 Washington St., Boston. 164 Baltimore St., Baltimore.
Pennsylvania Avenue, Washington. 7 Fourteenth St., Richmond.
64 Fourth St., Pittsburgh. Main St., Cincinnati.
18 Broad St., Charleston, S. C. Camp St., New Orleans.

ALVIN ADAMS, W. B. DINSMORE, E. S. SANFORD, AND S. M. SHOEMAKER.

Philadelphia, Nov 24 1854

RECEIVED from U.S. Mail

Two Pkgs said to contain

Dies

Marked Branch Mint U.S. New Orleans

which we agree to forward to NY only,

and deliver to Sanford Agent,

We not holding ourselves responsible for loss or damage of any package beyond the value of Fifty Dollars, unless otherwise herein stated, and insured by mutual agreement.

For the Proprietors, S. K. Sanford

Crissy & Markley, Printers, Goldsmiths Hall, Library Street.

November 24th. 11.

Sir.

I transmit to you by Adams & Co's Express today two boxes of dies for 1855 - of which I herein enclose a statement. Box No 1, contains also the Gold Dollar rolling guage.

Not having received from you the actual acquisition, the Engraver has prepared a sufficient number of such dies, as he thinks the operations of your Branch may require.

I am, very respectfully,
Jas. Ross Snowden
Director

Chas. Bienvenu, Esq.,
Assist Branch U.S. Mint
New Orleans, La.

Working Dies for Branch U.S. Mint at New Orleans, for 1866.

Box No. 1, containing Cases 1 to 15 inclusive, and the gold dollar rolling guage.

Box No. 2, containing cases nos. 16 to 39 inclusive.

Cases, Nos. 1, 2,	being	4	Heads:	Double-Eagles:
" " 3, 4,	"	4	do.	Eagle:
" " 5, 6, 7,	"	6	do.	Half-Eagle:
" " 8, 9, 10,	"	6	do.	Quarter Eagle:
" " 11, 12, 13,	"	In pairs.	6	do.	Half-Dollar:
" " 14, 15, 16,	"		6	Reverses:	do.
" " 17, 18, 19,	"	In pairs.	5	Heads:	Quarter Dollar:
" " 20, 21,	"		5	Reverses:	do.
" " 22, 23, 24, 25,	"	In pairs.	8	Heads:	Dime
" " 26, 27, 28, 29,	"		8	Reverses:	do.
" " 30, 31	"	In pairs.	4	Heads:	Half Dime:
" " 32, 33,	"		4	Reverses:	do.
" " 34, 35, 36,	"	In pairs.	6	Heads:	Gold Dollar
" " 37, 38, 39,	"		6	Reverses:	do.

To/ Supt'dt. Branch Mint.
New-Orleans.
Nov't. 24, 1837.

Transmitting dies for 1838,
and gold Dollar rolling gauge.
(Adams & Co's. receipt filed)

United States Br. Mint New Orleans
Treasurer's Office Nov. 24. 1854

Sir,

I send herewith the Bonds of Messrs Kennedy and Von Hasten, clerks in my Office, together with certificates of the sufficiency of their Sureties.

Very respectfully
Your obt. Servt.
James Brown
Treasurer

To
James Ross Snowden Esq
Director U. S. Mint
Philadelphia

From James Burnes Esq
~~Supt~~ Treasurer
Br Mint
New Orleans

Enclosing Official
Bonds of Messrs
Kennedy Bontaster
Clerks in this Office
with certificates
of the Sufficiency
of the Sureties

Dec 1st 1854

United States of America
State of Louisiana
City of New Orleans

I, Wm E. Kennedy of the City of New Orleans in the State of Louisiana being duly sworn, do depose and say that I am the Surety of Marten G. Kennedy Chief Clerk in the Office of the Treasurer of the Branch of the Mint of the United States in New Orleans, and that I am worth the Sum of Five thousand dollars, over and above all just and legal liabilities whatever.

Sworn to and Subscribed before me this 21st day of Nov. A.D. 1854

Theo Hth Seale
N.J. Ist Judge
for the E. Dist. of Louisiana

Wm E. Kennedy.

This is to certify that Wm E. Kennedy of the City of New-Orleans, the Surety of Marten G. Kennedy Chief Clerk in the Office of the Treasurer of the Branch Mint of U. S. in New-Orleans, is worth the sum of Five thousand dollars over and above all just and legal liabilities whatever.

Chas Brenneman

"

United States of America
State of Louisiana
City of New Orleans

I F. B. Von Harten of the City of New Orleans in the State of Louisiana, being duly sworn do depose and say that I am the surety of Edward Von Harten a Clerk in the Treasurers office at the Branch of the Mint of the United States at New Orleans, and that I am worth the sum of Five thousand Dollars over and above all just and legal liabilities incured for any cause whatever

Sworn to and subscribed F. B. Von Harten
before me this 18th
day of November A.D. 1854

Thos. H. McCaleb
N.P.

This is to certify that F. B. Von Harten of the City of New Orleans the Surety of Edward Von Harten a clerk in the Treasurers Office at the Branch of the Mint of the United States at New Orleans is worth the sum of Five thousand dollars over and above all just and legal liabilities whatever

James Thurer
Treasurer of the
U.S. Mint & Br. New Orleans

Mint of the United States Philad.a Dec. 1. 1854

Dear Sir

During the month past, the attendance of the workmen in my department, has been punctual, and their respective duties have been satisfactorily performed.

The working dies for the year 1855 for the different Branches, have been prepared and delivered to be forwarded, in anticipation of the customary requisitions: excepting those for the Three Dollar piece, for which I wish to make an improvement in the reverse for the next year.

The requisition for the New Orleans Branch has been since received, and I am happy to find, has been fully met by the list prepared for all the denominations except the Half-Dollar and Quarter Dollar, all that are yet called for, however, of these, will, I have no doubt, be provided in sufficient time for the operations of that Branch.

Very Respect.y
Your Ob.t Serv.t

James B. Longacre
Engraver

J. R. Snowden Esq.re
Director

From Lt B Longacre Es
Engr and M Smith

Report for November

Dec. 1, 1834

Mint of the United States,

Philadelphia, December 1, 1854

Copy

Sir,

I have received your letter of the 24th ult.o with the enclosures stated. The Bonds of Messrs Kennedy & Bonstarter being to my satisfaction have been certified to by me and this day transmitted to the Department.

Yours Respectfully

Director

James Bruce Esq
Assistant Treasurer
New Orleans

To
James L Bruen Esq
Lieut 1st Regt Mtd
New Orleans

Ack Receipt of
Copies of Messrs
Kennedy & McHarten
Clerks in this Office
& state that they have
filed My Certificates
Accounts with the
Department

June 1, 1854

Dl December 1854

United States Branch Mint,

New Orleans, December 1. 1854

Sir.

I have received your letter of 22d ult. with a Copy of the general Regulations for the Mint, Branch Mints & Assay Office.

I shall make it my duty to have them enforced at this Branch Mint, and to adopt, from time to time, such other measures as the benefit of this institution may require.

Very Respectfully
your ob. Ser.t
Ch. Bienvenu
Supt.

Col. James R. Snowden
Director U. S. Mint
Philadelphia

2.

Respecting Regulation

December 1. 4.

Sir,

Your letter of the 21st ult.o transmitting the usual Weekly Statement and containing a requisition for dies for Your Branch for 1855 has been received. Not having received this requisition from you at the usual time, I caused such dies for 1855 to be prepared as I thought would be required and transmitted them to you a few days since.

I find that there was not as many Half & quarter dollar dies sent as you have asked for, those sent however, will be sufficient for your operations until the balance can be prepared and forwarded to you. Some little alteration is being made in the three dollar die which will delay the transmission of the number of this die contained in your requisition, until near the close of this month. With these exceptions your requisition was met (and a little exceeded) by the dies transmitted as above.

I am, Very Respectfully,
James Ross Snowden.
Director.

Charles Bienvenu, Esq.,
Supt. U.S. Mint,
New Orleans.

To. Charles J Bienvenu
Supt 1st Dist
New Mexico

In reply to his
requisition for
Stores for 1873

Dec. 1, 1873

December 1, 4

Sir,

I enclose the official Bonds of Martin Y Kennedy and Edward Von Harten Elected to the Treasurer of the Branch Mint at New Orleans, and which I have certified to be to my satisfaction.

I have the honor to be,
With great respect,
Your faithful Servant,
Samuel Ralston Snowden.
Director.

Hon James Guthrie
Sec. of the Treasury
Washington City

To,

Hon James Guthrie

Sec. of the Treasury

Washington City

Enclosing the Official

Bond of Messrs Kennedy

& Mustard to this

office of the Treas

Per Mail P. Means

Dec 14 1854

United States Branch Mint,

New Orleans, December 2d, 1854

Sir,

Your letter of 24th ult.o is at hand also the Statement enclosed of dies for 1855. The boxes are not yet arrived. I has the honor on the 21st ult.o to send you a Statement of Dies required for the year 1855, which differs from yours. Enclosed is the Copy of the requisition made in my last letter.

As soon as I will receive the dies already forwarded, I shall have them prepared for the beginning of next year.

I am very respectfully

Ch. Bienvenu

Supt

Col. James R. Snowden

Director U.S. Mint

Philadelphia

1

[redacted]

United States Branch Mint,

New Orleans, December 2d 1854

Sir,

I send you enclosed the Statement of the Condition of this Branch Mint, at the Close of the week ending on the 25th of Nov. 1854.

Very Respectfully

Chs. Bienvenu

Supt.

Col. James R. Snowden

Director U. S. Mint

Philadelphia

From
Charles L Bienvenu Esq
Supt Br Mint
E New Orleans

Three Letters
1st Requisitions for dies for 1855
2 A&R Receipt of General Regulations
3 Enclosing Weekly Statement

Dec 11, 1854

U. S. Branch Mint, New Orleans
Treasurer's Office Dec. 5. 1854

Sir,

Enclosed please find Copy of a Letter this moment received from the First Auditor. As I have no other connection with this matter than the payment of the workmen upon the Authority of your Warrants I beg that you will give me whatever information you possess, and also to furnish me with such Letters of the Secy of the Treasury as relate to this Subject, in order that I may promptly comply with the requests of the First Auditor.

I am, Sir, very respectfully
your Obt. Svt.
James Bowes
Treasurer

To
Chas. Bienvenu Esq.
Supt. Br. Mint

(?) M. O. Kelley
W. Collins

John Bernbaum

Joseph A. Snyder Lick
Raymond Lilly Lick.
C. Thomas.

To:

T. L. Smith, Esqr.

1st Auditor

&c &c, Treasury Washington

Employment of Workmen at Br. Mint New Orleans.

Authority vested in the Supt.

Dec 15, 1834.

Treasury Department
Dec. 6. 1852.

Sir

In reply to your letter of the 30th. ultimo I have to remark that the visit of Mr. Bienvenu referred to, having been sanctioned by the Department, it seems reasonable that his necessary expenses should be paid; and you will be pleased to authorise the payment from the ordinary funds of the Branch Mint at N. Orleans.

I am very Resp.y
Jas. Guthrie
Sec. of the Treasury.

J. R. Snowden Esq.
Director of the Mint.
Philad.a

From
Hon James Guthrie
Sec of the Treasury

Authorizing the
payment of $300
to the Supt of
the U.S. Boat
& Navy Agents
from the Ordinary
Fund of that Bd
being Amt of his
Expenses Boston
Dec 1854

December 7. 4

Sir,

I have the pleasure of informing you that my application to the Secretary of the Treasury for the payment of your expenses, while on a recent visit to the Mint connected with the business of your institution, and sanctioned by this Office, has been successful, and I have now by direction of the Department to authorize the payment of $300, the amount of your necessary expenses from the ordinary fund of your Branch of the Mint.

I am, Very Respectfully,

Director

Charles V. Bienvenu, Esq.
Supt. Assay Office
New Orleans,

To.

Charles V Peirson Esq

~~Supt Assay Office~~

Supt U S Mint

New Orleans

Authorizing the

Payment of $100

the Amount of his

Expenses to the Mint

Dec 7, 1854

United States Branch Mint,

New Orleans, December 7. 1854.

Sir,

I received, yesterday, a letter herein enclosed from the Treasurer of this Branch Mint, containing the Copy of a letter from the First Auditor at Washington, calling upon him for a Copy of the letter of the Secretary of the Treasury, wherein authority is given from time to time, to increase the number of Workmen in our Institution.

After some reflections, I came to the conclusion that this way of proceeding was altogether irregular in my opinion, and I refused to comply with said requisition for the following reasons, to wit:

Because, I derive my authority from the Secretary of the Treasury and from you and to you both alone, I stand responsible for my actions as Superintendent of this Branch Mint, and to you both alone. I acquired the right to call for explanation in regard to the management of the business of the Mint and its consequences. Should it be otherwise, is it not clear that it would not have control over the officers of the Mint, if they had the right to question

my authority for all such actions, I may think proper to take for the benefit of this Branch, and more particularly when those actions have been dictated to me by the wise advises of the Secretary of the Treasury and by yourself. — In reading the letter of the first auditor, you will perceive, that he not only asks for the transmission of a copy of the letter of the Secretary of the Treasury &c., for the present; but at the same time requests that in future, when any increase or diminution of the force now engaged, shall be sanctioned by the department, that a copy of the authority may be filed with the account for the quarter during which this change occurs. Now, when any change is made in regard to the workmen, it is under the authority of your letter of Jany 26th 1854, and the act of January 18. 1837 (p. 12) Compiled in a pamphlet, containing the laws relative to Mint & Coinage &c. If it was found necessary by the Secretary of the Treasury that a proof of the authority should be sent to the first auditor, is it not evident that the Treasurer of this Branch Mint would have the right to refuse payment to any man employed by me, when necessity would compell me so to do, and do you not perceive at once the great embarrassment in which I would be laid and the loss of time in our different departments, while it would take me 15 or 20 days

to write you about the matter and to receive the answer?
Sir, I am guided merely by a profound sense of duty in my responsible position; and although entertaining the highest regard and respect for the First Auditor, still I differ with him.

Should it be your opinion that I should have delivered a copy of your letter authorizing the increase of workmen, I shall certainly abide by your decision. But I hope, Sir, that for the benefit as much as for the expediency of the business of this Branch Mint, I shall be sustained in my opinion.

With great regard,

I am your obedient servant

Chas. Stevens

Supt.

Col. James R. Snowden
Director U. S. Mint
Philadelphia

From, Charles L Bienvenu Esq
Supt. U.S. Mint
New Orleans

Enclosing letters
from the 1st Auditor
& the Treasurer of the
U.S. respecting the
authority for an
increase of
the number of Workmen

Dec 14, 1854

United States Branch Mint,

New Orleans, December 9. 1854.

Sir.

I have to inform you that the supplies of Gold and Silver fell off so much, that a number of our workmen must be dispensed with, unless steps be taken to induce a supply of bullion by increasing the price of Silver at this city to at least the same price paid in Philadelphia.

At the end the present month, I will be under the hard necessity of dismissing some of our able and trustworthy workmen. Men who from their being so long accustomed to the work at the Mint, cannot hereafter be easily replaced, and who will suffer severely from the loss of their situations.

I would earnestly require your aid to increase the supplies of bullion, from a desire to retain

the usefulness of our Branch, and a wish to continue
in their respective places men who have so long and
so faithfully served the government

I take this opportunity to acknowledge the
receipt of your letter 30 ult.o and beg you to accept
my most sincere thanks for your kind attention

I am, Sir, with much regard
your obedient servant.

Chs. Bienvenu
Superv.t

Col. James R. Snowden
Director U. S. Mint
Philadelphia

From. Charles V Bienvenu Esqr
Supt. Br. Mint
New Orleans

Diminished Supply of Gold and Silver Bullion & consequent necessity for reducing the number of Workmen unless the Supply of Silver can be increased by advancing the price of Silver

Also acknowledges the receipt of my letter of 30th ult.

Dec 16, 1854

Duplicate.

December 4

Sir,

I have received a communication from the Superintendent of the Branch Mint at New Orleans enclosing a copy of a letter from you to that Officer dated Nov. 29th last, in respect to the number of workmen employed at that institution. The Act of March 3d 1835 limiting the number of workmen to twenty has been regarded as suspended by subsequent laws making appropriations for that Branch.

The power to employ workmen is vested in the Superintendent, see 5th Sect of the Act above stated which applies the general Mint Law to the Branches, see 4th Sect of that Law. It would be productive of delay, inconvenience and loss if this authority were withheld from the Superintendent who is responsible for the proper management of the institution under his charge.

I enclose an extract of a letter from the Secretary of the Treasury on the subject of increasing the coinage at New Orleans and a copy of my instructions to the Superintendent.

Very Respectfully,

James Pope Spinden

Solicitor.

T. L. Smith, Esqr.
1st Auditor of the Treasury,
Washington City.

Copy.

Treasury Department
First Auditors Office
November 29th 1854

James Brewer Esqr
Treasurer of the Br. Mint
New Orleans La:

Sir

I will thank you to transmit to this office at your earliest convenience, copies of the letter of the Secretary of the Treasury wherein authority was given from time to time to increase the number of workmen beyond what were authorized by the 2nd Sec: of the act of 3d March 1835 establishing the Branch Mint at New Orleans.

I would be glad to have in addition, copies of such of the letters of the Secy, authorizing the employment of all persons connected with the Branch Mint (excepting the Officers & Clerks) on the 30th Sep: last: and take this occasion to request that in future, when any increase or diminution of the force now employed shall be sanctioned by the Department that a copy of the authority may be filed with the account for the Quarter during which the change occurs.

A prompt compliance with the above requests will facilitate the adjustment of your accounts for the 3d Qr: 1854

Very respectfully
Your obt: svt.
S. L. Smith
Auditor

Signed

December 13th 1838

Sir,

I have received a communication from the Superintendent of the Branch Mint at New Orleans enclosing a copy of a letter from you to that officer dated Nov. 29th last, in respect to the number of workmen employed at that institution. The act of March 3, 1835 limiting the number of workmen to twenty has been regarded as suspended by subsequent laws making appropriations for that Branch.

The power to employ workmen is vested in the Superintendent, Sec. 1st Sect. of the act above stated which applies the General Mint law to the Branches, see 4th Sect. of that law. It would be productive of delay, inconvenience and loss if this authority were withheld from the Superintendent who is responsible for the proper management of the institution under his charge.

I enclose an extract of a letter from the Secretary of the Treasury on the subject of increasing the Coinage at New Orleans & a copy of my instructions to the Superintendent.

Very Respectfully,

Your Ob't Servt.

Director.

T. L. Smith, Esqr
1st Asst Treasury
Washington City.

United States Branch Mint,

New Orleans, December 5th 1854

Sir

I send herewith Statements of Deposits and Coinage, and of Coins reserved for assaying at this Branch Mint during Nov. 1854, and also the usual weekly Statement for the week ending on the 2d inst.

The assay Coins will be forwarded by this day's Mail.

Very respectfully

Chs. Bienvenu

Supt.

Col. James R. Snowden

Director U. S. Mint

Philadelphia

Wm J. Jo
Chas Dickerson Esq
Supt. U.S. Mint
New Orleans

Monthly Report
Nassy Coin
for November 1854

Dec 12, 1854

Dec. 1st. 4

Sir,

I have received your letter of the 30th ult. with the enclosures stated, and the Exchequer Bill for £100 containing the sums received at your Branch during the month of November for the Unmade Army.

I am, Sir, Your Respectfully,

Samuel Hyde Snowden

Lieut.

Edwards & Robertson Esq.

Agents for Victualling

Office Deptford

December 16, 4.

Sir,

I have received your letter of the 7th inst with the enclosures stated. For the purpose of gaining time, I immediately addressed a letter to the 1st Auditor of the Treasury communicating my views on the subject presented in your letter, a duplicate of which is herewith enclosed, and which you can exhibit to the Treasurer of your Branch for his information. Should anything further take place on this subject you will be apprised of it.

Your letter of the 9th inst has also been received, and I have asked authority from the Department to increase the price of Silver at your Branch to 122½ cents per ounce of standard fineness.

I am, Very Respectfully,
James Ross Snowden
Director.

Charles A Bienvenu, Esqr,
Supt Br. Mint,
New Orleans,

To,
Charles Burleson, Esq
Supt B. R. Mail Service
N. C.

In reply to letter of 7th inst.
Enclose a duplicate of
my letter to Asst. Auditor
as to employment of
workmen at that
Branch. I state that
Shaw, as authority
to increase the pay
of Silver at that
B.

Dec 16, 1854

Treasury Department
First Auditors Office
December 18th 1834

A.S. Ross Snowden Esqr
Director of the U.S. Mint
Philadelphia

Sir:

I transmit herewith for your inspection and approval the Pay Rolls for Wages of Workmen employed at the Branch Mint at New Orleans during the Quarter ending 30th Sept. last

Very Respectfully
Your Obt. Servt
O. L. Smith

Audr

Treasury Department
First Auditors Office
December 18th 1854

Dad. Ross Snowden Esq
Director of the U.S. Mint
Philadelphia

Sir:

Inclosed herewith I transmit for your Inspection & approval the Pay Rolls for the Wages of Workmen Employed at the Branch Mint at San Francisco during the Quarter ending 30th Sept. 1854

Very Respectfully
Your Obt. Svt.
J. L. Smith

Auditor

From/ J. L. Smith Esq:,
1st: auditor Treo.

Dated Dec: 18/54

Rec? Dec: 19.

Two letters

1st: Enclosing for my approval
Pay Rolls of Branch at Norfolk.
2nd: Enclosing for my approval
Pay Roll, of Branch S. Francisco.

United States Branch Mint,

New Orleans, December 20th 1854.

Sir,

I have the pleasure to enclose the Statement of the Condition of this Branch Mint at the close of the week ending on the 16th of December 1854.

I beg you at the same time, Sir, to accept my most sincere thanks for your exertions in obtaining for me, the payment of my expenses, while on a recent visit to the North connected with the business of our Branch Mint.

I remain, respectfully, your obedt servant,

Chas Bienvenu
Supt.

Col. James R. Snowden
Director U.S. Mint
Philadelphia.

From/ Supt. Branch N.
New-Orleans.

Dated Dec. 20/54

Rec'd 27th:

Enclosing Statement for week ending Dec: 16.

Thanking me for the allowance of his expenses to the North in the summer.

Treasury department
First Auditors Office
December 21st 1854

Jas. Ross Snowden Esq
Director of the US Mint
Philadelphia

Sir:

I transmit herewith an Extract from a letter addressed to Hon. Dan'l Dungan, Treasurer US. Mint under date of 26th October last, with the request that you will instruct the Treasurers of the Branches at San Francisco and New Orleans, to comply with the suggestions contained therein — It is proper here to remark, that the reply of Mr Robert Tallmadge then acting Treasurer apprehended the necessity of a change in the present System of rendering the Bullion Accounts in order to comply with my suggestions — No such change having been intended or considered necessary to a compliance with my suggestions, the request was issued under date of 15th inst: and I am satisfied that the additional entries upon the Assayers Report will afford more and facilities in the Examination of the Bullion Accounts in this Office, and would seem to be required by the 17th Sec: of the act of 18th January 1837 —

Very Respectfully

Your obt Svt

I. L. Smith
Auditor

From/
T. L. Smith, Esq:,
1st. Auditor
Dec: 21/54.

Recd: 22 Decr.

Enclosing Extract from a letter of this to Bear of Mint - and desiring one to instruct Assays at New Orleans & San Francisco to comply with the suggestions contained therein.

December 23d 1.

it.

I yesterday authorized you by telegraphic dispatch purchase Silver at the rate of $1.22½ per standard ounce. Herein I enclose for your guidance in paying for Silver bullion the increased rate, a copy of my circular dated June 24th. 26, and have to request that hereafter you will pay for Silver purchased by you at the prices fixed thereby, after publication in the papers of your City of the new tariff of prices. I trust that this advance in the rates for Silver, will increase your supply of that metal, so that your operations may continue as heretofore.

I enclose also an extract from a letter of the 1st. Auditor of the Treasury department to the Treasurer of the Mint. In order to afford increased facilities to that Officer, in auditing the Bullion Accounts of your Branch of the Mint, you will cause the reports of the Assayer to be made in conformity to the suggestion of Mr. Auditor Smith.

Since the date of my last writing, I have received the Pay Rolls of your Branch from the 1st. Auditor for my approval and have returned them to him with my certificate. No further communication has been received from him relative to the subject, and none is to be expected.

I am, very respectfully,

Charles Bunnow, Esq:,
Supdt: Branch Mint, New Orleans.

Director.

December 23d 1.

Sir.

I yesterday authorized you by telegraphic dispatch, purchase Silver at the rate of $1.22½ per standard ounce. Herein I inclose for your guidance in paying for Silver bullion at the increased rate, a copy of my circular dated June 24th. 1836, and have to request that hereafter you will pay for Silver purchased by you at the prices fixed thereby, after publication in the papers of your city of the new tariff of prices. I trust that this advance in the rates for Silver, will increase your supply of that metal, so that your operations may continue as heretofore.

I inclose also an extract from a letter of the 1st. Auditor of the Treasury department to the Treasurer of the Mint. In order to afford increased facilities to that Officer, in auditing the Bullion Accounts of your Branch of the Mint, you will cause the reports of the Assayer to be made in conformity to the suggestion of Mr. Auditor Smith.

Since the date of my last writing, I have received the Pay Rolls of your Branch from the 1st. Auditor for my approval and have returned them to him with my certificate. No further communication has been received from him relative to the subject, and none is to be expected.

I am, very respectfully,

Charles Bienrone, Esq.,
Supdt. Branch Mint, New Orleans.

Director.

Extract.

Hon. Dan'l. Sturgeon,
Secretary U.S. Mint, Phil'a

Sir.

"In future you will please cause to be "entered in the Assayer's Reports, the Standard weight and "value of Gold Bullion, adding on the reports the value of "Silver parted for the Depositor, and deducting the usual "charges, in order to shew the net value of each deposit on "the face of the Report." * * * * * * * * * * *

(Signed)
L. L. Smith,
1st. Auditor.

To/ Chas. Bienvenu Esq:
Supdt. Branch Mint
New Orleans

Dec. 23d 1854

1. Is increased price of Silver at his Branch to $1.22½ per oz: std.
2. Is mailed Report of Assayers conformably to suggestion of 1st. Auditor (See his letter ult. 22d inst.) and 3d. I have approved the Pay-rolls of this Branch sent by the auditor - & that is "the end of that chapter".

United States Branch Mint,
New Orleans, December 26th 1854

Sir,

Herewith is enclosed the statement of the Condition of this Branch Mint, at the close of the week ending on the 23d December 1854.

Very respectfully,
Ch. Bienvenu
Supt.

Col. James R. Snowden
Director U. S. Mint
Philadelphia

From / Supt: Branch Mint,
New Orleans.
26 Dec: 54.

Rec'd Jany: 2/55.

Enclosing statement of work ending on 29 Dec.

United States Branch Mint,

New Orleans, Dicembr 29th 1854

Sir,

In accordance with your request of the 18th inst., I subjoin the Tariff of Charges on Gold & Bullion deposited for Coinage at this Branch.

Our depositors have seldom complained of the charges for Parting, but have been invariably dissatisfied with that for Coinage. If this last charge were abolished, I think it would cause a larger amount of Gold Coins to be brought to this Branch than we are now receiving.

Rates of Charges.

Parting

Proportion of Gold – 1 to 200 thous. 1½ per ounce gross after melting.

201 to 600 " 2 " " " " "

601 to 700 " 3 " " " " "

701 to 800 " 4 " " " " "

801 to 935 " 5 " " " " "

Coinage

½ % on total value of Deposite.

I will transmit to you as soon as possible after the close of the present year, a statement exhibiting the Deposits & Coinage at our Branch during the same.

I will also inform you of the amount of the profits of our institution for the year 1854.

I am very Respectfully
your Obt. Serv.t
Ch. Brinsmade
Sup.t

Col. James R. Snowden
Director U. S. Mint
Philadelphia

From/ Supt. Branch Mint
New-Orleans,

Dated Dec: 29/54

Rec.d Jan. 5/55

Tariff of charges at this
Branch given.

NEW ORLEANS, 1855

NATIONAL TELEGRAPH

LINES TO

PITTSBURGH, CINCINNATI, LOUISVILLE, ST. LOUIS, CHICAGO, NEW ORLEANS,

AND ALL INTERMEDIATE PLACES,

Office, No. 101 Chestnut Street, Second Story, Rear Room,

PHILADELPHIA.

7

Dated at New Orleans Dec 30 1854

To Director of Mint

When paying silver deposits do you calculate standard weight upon weight before or after melting –

Chas Bienvenu

15/120 pd

Replied to upon receipt – (9.30 am Jan. 2, 1855)

"Upon the weight after melting."

James Ren Snowden,
Director

Telegraphic

from Supt. Branch Mint
New Orleans

Rec'd JAN. 2, 55.

As to calculations of standard
weight of Silver Deposits.

Answer endorsed.

January 1855

United States Branch Mint,

New Orleans, January 2d 1855.

Sir,

Enclosed please find Statement of Deposits, - Coinage - and Assay Coins for the year 1855. and the usual Monthly Statements of Deposits and Coinage and Coins Reserved for Assay during the month of December also Weekly Statement for the week ending December 29th 1855.

The Assay Coins will be forwarded this day.

Very Respectfully
your Obt. Serv't.
Chas. Reminne
Sup't.

Col. James R. Snowden
Director U. S. Mint
Philadelphia

From
Lieut J. W. Mines
San Diego

Enclosing certain
Statements &c

Jan 12, 1856.

January 1856

January 6th, 6.

Sir:

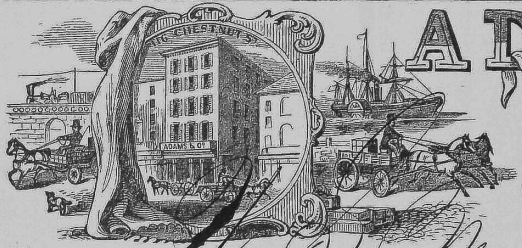
Your letter of 29 ult:, enclosing the tariff of charges made upon gold deposits at your branch, had been received.

I sent you yesterday by Adams & Co's. Express, one box containing, 44 heads and 44 reversed Half Dollar dies and 2 heads and 2 reversed for the three Dollard piece. The cases are marked, respectively, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44 & 45, and the dies are packed in pairs. Enclosed you will please find Adams & Co's. duplicate receipt for the box containing them.

I am, very respectfully,
Yours, &c:,
James Ross Snowden
Director.

Charles Bienvenu Esq:,
Supt. Branch Mint,
New Orleans, La.

ADAMS & Co, No. 116 Chestnut St, Philadelphia.



ADAMS & CO'S

GREAT EASTERN WESTERN AND SOUTHERN

PACKAGE EXPRESS.

Philadelphia January 4 1855

Received from A. S. Munn in apparent good order, the undermentioned articles, marked as per margin, which we agree to forward to ..... only, and deliver to ..... Agent, subject to the agreement now made, and herein expressed as follows, viz.:

It is AGREED, and is part of the consideration of this contract, that we are not to be responsible for any loss or damage arising from the dangers of Railroad, Steam or River Navigation, Leakage, Fire, or from any cause whatever, unless the same be proved to have occurred from the fraud or negligence of ourselves, or agents; and we in no event to be liable beyond our route, as above receipted. Valued under $50, unless otherwise herein stated.

Fragile fabrics, or fabrics consisting of, or contained in ***GLASS,*** will not be received, unless the character of the same is fully and clearly marked on each package; and even then the Company reserves to itself the right to refuse such goods.

Freight

MARK.	ARTICLE.
Sup A. S. Munn	
New Orleans	One Box
La	

For the Proprietors,

W. F. Murphy, Stationer & Printer, 116 Chestnut Street, over Adams' Express Office, Philad'a.

To/ Supt. Branch Mint at
New Orleans.

Jan. 5/55.

Statement of and Adams & Co's. receipt
for box of dies sent yesterday.

United States Branch Mint,

New Orleans, January 5th 1855

Sir,

I send herewith Statements of the Deposits and Coinage, and Coins reserved for apaying during December 1854. - also Statements of the Deposits & Coinage, and Coins reserved for apaying during the year 1854.

The apay Coins for December last, have been forwarded by this day's mail.

Very Respectfully

Ch. Wiencke

Supt.

Col. James R. Snowden

Director U.S. Mint

Philadelphia

January 12, 1855.

Sir,

I have received your letters of the 8th inst. with the enclosures stated, and also the Coines reserved at your Branch during the Month of December for the Annual Assay.

I am, very Respectfully
James Ross Snowden
Director.

Charles N. Pinaroux, Esqr.,
Supt. U.S. Mint,
New Orleans,

United States Branch Mint,

New Orleans, January 5th 1855

Sir

In obedience to your requisitions, I send herewith abstracts of the Silver purchase Profit & Loss and Bullion Deposit Profit & Loss accounts, and a Statement of the Quaterly expenditures of this Institution; and also a synopsis of Silver Purchase Profit & Loss acct. for the whole of the year 1854. Showing the net Profits to be $106.616 70/100, and a present balance, transferable to the Treasury of the United States of $88.629 27/100, and a synopsis of Bullion Deposit. Profit & Loss acct., exhibiting in like manner the Profits for 1854 to be $6.643 52/100 and a present balance, transferable to the Treasury of the U. S. of $1.052 03/100.

You must have noticed that I committed an error in dating my last letter. Instead of Dec. 4. 1854, it is January 4. 1855. in answer to your letter of 23. ultimo.

Very Respectfully.

Chs. Bienvenu

Sup.t

Col. James R. Snowden

Director U. S. Mint Phil.a

From. A. Brunson Esq
Supt. W. Br. Mint

A. 0

Two Letters
1st transmitting Annual
Report & Abstracts &c
of Mr Report for Dec
1854.
2 Enclosing Semi
~~Statements~~ Exhibits
Profit & Loss Account

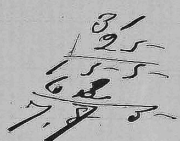
to U.S. Treas
Jan 12, 1855

Directors Acknowledge-
ment enclosed

Mint of the United States,

Philadelphia, ... 185

Foreign Coin
Foreign Bull
U.S. Coin (OS)
U.S. Bullion



From Sept 30. to Dec 31st 1834

Mem: for preparation of Warrant

To

Hon. James Guthrie
Sec. of the Treasury
Washington

Presenting a Statement
of Expenditures by Mint
N. O. for 4th Qr 1854

Jan 12, 1855.

January 12, 5.

Sir,

In compliance with the Act of March 4, 1853, c 97, I present herewith a quarterly Statement of the Expenditures of the Branch of the Mint of the United States at New Orleans, for the 4th Quarter 1854.

I have the honor to be,
With great respect,
Your faithful Servant,
James Ross Snowden
Director.

Hon. James Guthrie,
Sec. of the Treasury,
Washington City,

Treasury Department
Jan 22. 1855.

Sir

Be pleased to inform the Department what amount of Silver has been purchased for Coinage at Philadelphia and N. Orleans in the Six Months ending the 31st. December last.

I am very Resp.
James Guthrie
Sec Treasury

Dan'l. Ringgen Esq
Treasurer Mint.

From Sec. of Treas
Washington
Rec'd
Jan 23/55

United States Branch Mint,

New Orleans, January 16th 1855.

Sir,

I send herewith the annual Statements of the Bullion accounts of the Melter & Refiner and Coiner, for the year 1854. Showing the wastage claimed by those officers on the bullion worked by them during that period.

Also Statement of the Condition of this Branch Mint at the close of the week ending on the 13th January 1855.

Very Respectfully
your obt. Servt.
Chs Ronaldson
Supt.

Col. James R. Snowden
Director U. S. Mint
Philadelphia.

[illegible] Brooks
N. O.

Banks Statements

Jan 23, 1835

Feb. 3rd 5

Sir,

I have your letter of the 27th ult. and by the same mail received a letter from the Department referring to me a letter from Mr. Forsith on the same subject.

I have written to the Department in relation to the matter, and will write to you as soon as I hear from them.

I may state that in view of the large supply of Silver Coin now on hand and the difficulty of getting it into Circulation at times desirable that we should return to the former price 121 cents per ounce, as the Small charge between 122½ & 125 will not allow the cost of the transportation of the bullion from N. O. to Phila. unless it can be brought in for Coin without expense of which I know — I have no knowledge of. But I suggest a mode of paying which I think will be satisfactory to the Dept. & will write to you soon. Yours Respy

Chas. Brenham Esq. Collr. New Orleans

James Pollock Director

United States Branch Mint,

New Orleans, January 27. 1855.

Sir,

Since the publication of the circular of the Mint of the United States, authorizing the payment of Silver at $1.02½ to bullion dealers, I have to inform you that we have received few deposits more than usual. But at the same time on account of the scarcity of gold in our institution I have now hardly 10.000 dollars we have been compelled to refuse our large deposits, the demand being generally for gold, and the depositors refusing to take transfers on New-York, on account of the loss of ½ p% discount imposed upon them.

Yesterday we were offered $50.000. by Mr. C. S. Forstall, provided the payment should be made in Gold. and although we have

at present more than one million and a half in silver in our vaults already coined. Still we could not agree. But I have asked him time to confer with you upon the possibility of a shipment of one million of gold from the Phila.a Mint to the Branch here, against a shipment from us of an equal amount of silver by this Branch. I think, that, if this could be remitted at once, it might lead the bullion dealers of Mexico, to ship a large portion of their bullions to New-Orleans, instead of shipping them to England as it has been the case heretofore.

I submit this to your wise consideration with the hope and the desire to obtain a favorable result for the benefit of the country.

Very respectfully your ob.t Serv.t

C. H. Dimmock
Sup.t

Col. James R. Snowden
Director U.S. Mint
Philadelphia.

From & To

Charles V Peuvrelle Esq

Supt Br Mint

A.U.

Supply of Silver bullion
in advance of the Mint
to pay for deposits
of

Act 3, 1853

February 1855

United States Branch Mint,

New Orleans, January 23. 1855.

Sir.

I have received this day, one box marked No. 1, containing six pairs of Dies for the Coinage of 1855 viz:

Half Dollars Dies	4 Heads	4 Reverses
Three Dollars Gold. 1c	2 "	2 "
	6 "	6 "

The annual Statement of the Condition of this Branch Mint, at the close of the week ending on the 20th January 1855. is herein enclosed

Very Respectfully
your obt. Serv.
Chas Newman
Sup.t

Col. James R. Snowden.
Director U.S. Mint
Philadelphia

Jam. C. Benham Esq

Supt of Mail

N. C

Post Master

Ore

Jan 30, 1855

Treasury Department
Feb. 1. 1855.

Sir

I enclose herewith a letter received by the Department from E. J. Forstall Esq of N. Orleans which when you have read it, be pleased to return to the Department with any suggestion which you may have to offer.

The particular object in submitting it is to ascertain from you whether, in the authority given to purchase Silver at N. Orleans the right was not reserved to pay for it in N. York or Boston.

I am very Resp.

P. Thos Dunglison for the
Sec Treasury.

J. Rob's Snowden Esq
Director of the Mint
Philad.

From & To.

Hon James Gallatin
Sec. of the Treasury
Washington

Enclosing a letter from
Mr Forstall & generally
on the subject of purchas-
ing of Silver at N. Orleans

Feb. 3. 1835

(Copy)

New Orleans 26th January 1855.

To the Hon. James Guthrie
Secretary of the Treasury
Washington.

Sir,

Permit me to lay before you the following facts:

On 31st Dec.r last the Branch Mint of this City, issued a circular advancing its buying price for Silver to $1.22½ per ounce, and offering to pay for the same as follows:

"The Silver tendered for sale will be received and weighed and a receipt given therefor. On the report of the Assayer the Standard & weight will be determined and the net value calculated at the above rate will thereupon be paid to the owner or his order".

On the faith of this circular which I immediately transmitted to my friends in Mexico, they have now on the way to me $500.000 which will be here within the next fortnight. On calling upon the Superintendent of the Mint this morning I learned that the Department was unable to meet at present the conditions of its circular, having hardly $10.000 of Gold on hand, and that for all purchases of Silver it could only pay in the new Silver Coin, or by transfer on New York. This would be a sad disappointment and a heavy loss to innocent parties, in the present condition of our money market, and I trust you will see the justice of applying at once the proper remedy to prevent the same. Whilst Checks & Transfers are heavy at ½ p.c. discount on New York and are likely to go down 1 p.c. the new Coin being a legal tender for only $5 cannot be used for the Exchange of produce and hence the refusal of our Banks, who already hold a large amount, to receive the same in deposit, and this they are compelled to do in self defence, for contrary to their provisions, the demand for the West has been here to fore for gold of which they have hardly a sufficient amount for their daily settlements, whilst their vaults are incumbered with Silver. Thus the $500.000 above alluded to which at the present moment would be of great relief to our Banks for their required Metallic basis, is whilst

considerably aiding the Exchanges of produce, now suffering for want of adequate facilities may for the time being become a dead weight if received in new Silver Coin, unless the parties choose to submit to a loss of ½ ℔% on a New York transfer. And all this might be remedied at once by a shipment of $2 or $2 millions of Gold from the Philadelphia Mint to the Branch here against a shipment for an equal amount of Silver by this Branch; and the whole if sent by U. S. Steamers would cost nothing to the Government whilst it may lead the Commerce of Mexico to ship a large portion of its Treasure through this place by our Steam Packets, instead of shipping nearly the whole as has been doing heretofore by British Steamers to the Bank of England, all of which would be of immense benefit to our Commerce generally.

I am Respectfully
Edm. J. Forstall

February 3, 57.

Dir,

I have your favor of the 1st inst enclosing a letter from Mr. E. J Forstall of new orleans, in which you state that the particular object in sending it home is to ascertain whether in the authority given to purchase silver at New Orleans the right was not reserved to pay for it in New York or Boston, to which I have to reply that no such reservation was made. It was to be purchased on the same terms as prescribed in the Circular of the 24th of June 1854, viz: in gold or silver coins at the option of the purchaser. As an explanation of the subject under consideration it is proper for me to state that in December last, I was informed by the Superintendent at New Orleans that their supply of silver was exhausted and was requested to adopt means to increase their supply. This point I presented to the Department in my letter of the 16th day of December last, and suggested that we should offer the same prices at New Orleans that we gave (at the Mint) in Phil.a This was afterwards approved by you.

I confess I had no expectation that the increased price would induce so large a supply and be beyond the means of that Branch to pay. As it appears from the letter of Mr Forstall, as well as one I received from the Superintendent on the same subject, that their supply of silver coin is not only ample but beyond the public demand I recommend a return to the price heretofore given. namely 121 cts. per ounce; but as the amount to be presented by Mr Forstall was shipped for New Orleans on the faith of the circular from the Bu Mint of the 31st December, it is certainly proper that it should be paid in gold as requested, and in order to accomplish this with the least expense and delay it might be well to transfer say $500,000 in gold from St Louis to that Branch; I make this suggestion because I notice from the last statement that there is about four

a half millions on deposit at that place.

It is very evident for the reasons fully stated in my letter of the 17th 22nd of June last that it is not expedient to pay a greater price than 121 cts per ounce when the cost of transportation of the bullion has to be paid by the government, and especially where the Silver coin does not seem to be demanded. It appears that at the Branch Mint they have on hand one million and a half of Silver Coins. I therefore recommend the above reduction of price, namely, to 121 cts. per ounce. This will so far diminish their supply of bullion as to enable that Branch in all probability to pay for the same with in Gold or Silver coins. but if it is hereafter ascertained that they receive more than they are able to pay for in specie, the option may be made in favor of the Branch, that is to say, "payable in specie or Silver coins at the option of the Superintendent". This however may be found to be unnecessary. The views I have presented are predicated upon the cost heretofore incurred in bringing Silver from New Orleans to Philadelphia. You may remember that we paid Messrs Adams & Co. $10,000 pr. Million, therefore the addition of that cost to the price of 122 and the expenses of Coinage, and the distribution of Coin renders it (except a loss to the government) inexpedient to continue to give 122½ cts as at present unless the suggestion of Mr. Forstall should be a practicable one namely, that the Silver bullion could be transferred to the Mint at New Orleans in the U.S. Steamers without cost to the government; upon which point I have no knowledge.

I would be glad to have your early sanction to the reduction of price to 121 in order that I may give instructions by telegraph to the Supt.

I have the honor to be, with great respect

Your faithful servant,

James Pollock

Hon. James Guthrie
Sec. of the Treasury
Washington

P.S. The letter of Mr. Forstall is returned herewith

February 12, 5.

Sir,

I have received your letter of the 2nd inst. with the enclosures stated, and also a package containing the coins received at your Branch during the Month of January for the Common Wealth.

I am Very Respectfully,
Your Obt. Servt.
James Ross Snowden
Director

Charles A. Dimmock, Esqr.
Supt. U.S. Mint.
New Orleans

United States Branch Mint,

New Orleans, February 2nd 1855.

Sir,

I send herewith Statements of deposits and Coinage, and of Coins reserved for ajaying during the Month of January last.

No ajay Coins have been transferred to Philadelphia by this days Mail.

I have to inform you that on the 31st ult. in presence of the officers of the Mint, I have caused the following Coining dies to be cancelled for the year 1854, being out of use. Viz.

Half dollar	55 H	32 T.	Eagle	8 H	3 T.
Quarter	12 "	7 "	Half Eagle	6 "	2 "
Dime	22 "	12 "	Quarter Eagle	10 "	4 "
Half Dime	20 "	9 "	Gold Dollar	11 "	5 "
Double Eagle	8 "	2 "	One Dollar Gold	2 "	3 "

Very Respectfully
your obt. Serv.t
Chas Renshaw
Sup.t

Col. James R. Snowden
Director U.S. Mint
Phila

From C. Peuvrun, Esq.
Supt. U.S. Mint
New Orleans

Transmits Monthly
Report of the Assay
Office for January
also Statement
of Coin deposited
for 1854

Feb 12/55

Directs Acknowledgment
made

February 5, 54.

Sir,

I have received your letter of the 1st inst. enclosing the Pay Rolls of Wages of Workmen employed at the Branch Mint, New Orleans during the 4th quarter 1854, which I have examined and herewith return with my Approval.

I am, very Respectfully,
Your Obt. Servant.
Director.

T. L. Smith, Esqr.
First Auditor Treasury
Washington City

Treasury Department
First Auditors office
February 2nd 1855

Dan'l. Ross Snowden Esqr
Director of the U.S. Mint
Philadelphia
Sir:

I Enclose herewith the Pay Roll's of Wages of workmen employed at the New Orleans Branch Mint during the 4th Quarter 1854 for your examination and approval.

Very Respectfully
Your Obt. Svt.
J. S. Smith
Auditor

Thos. Jo
J. L. Smith Esqr
1st Auditor

Pay Rolls of
D. C. Br Min
for 4th Qr 1834
enclosed for examination. Return when
My Approval
Oct. 8, 1835

Treasury Department
February 5. 1855.

Sir

Yours of the 3d. inst. has been received. The Department is under the impression that not more silver will be offered at N. Orleans at the price now offered than the wants of the Country will require. You will be pleased, therefore, to continue to purchase at the present rate, but to provide that for the purchases at N. Orleans payment be made at Boston or N. York at the option of the Department as suggested in the letter from the Department of the 2 July 1853 and which, it is to be regretted was omitted in your printed Notice.

I am very Resp.
Jas. Guthrie
Sec of the Treasury

J. R. Snowden Esq.
Director of Mint

From Hon James Guthrie
Sec. of the Treasy
Washington

Directs the continuance
of purchasing Silver
at N.O. at present
rate, with the reservation
of the option of
the Dep't. for payment
to be made at
N York or Boston

Feb. 6. 1853

Mason

Treasury Department
July 2. 1853.

Sir,

I have received your letter of the 28th ulto, upon the subject of the silver leonage The scale of prices proposed is doubtless proper under the circumstances, & there is no objection, therefore, to your, at once, giving it publicity - but the silver attracted by the former tariff was not needed for the public service whilst the purchase served as a great relief to the money market, by putting so much gold into circulation. -

In respect to the proposed circular, I will thank you to reserve a right to retain 25 pr ct of the leonage at both Mints & the further option at New Orleans of paying in drafts on N. York.

Very Respectfully
Yr. Obt Servt
James Guthrie
Secy. of the Treasury. -

J. Ross Snowden Esq
Director of Mint.
Philadelphia.

February 6, 75

Sir,

I have sent you to-day by Adams & Co. Express a box containing 7 Head Quater Dollar dies & 7 Reverses, also, 2 Head Dime dies Numbered 54 to 58 inclusive, and enclose herewith Adams & Co. Receipt for the same.

I am, very Respectfully,
A. R. Linderman
for the Director

Charles Bimmem, Esq.
Supt. Br. Mint
New Mexico

Feb. 6. 52 5

Sir,

I have had an answer to part of my recent letter to the Department on the question of future purchases of this. You will be pleased therefore to continue to purchase at the present rate, the specie that may for the purchase at New Orleans payment to be made at Boston or New York at the option of the Department".

I write you therefore immediately to give notice of this change in the mode of payment.

I go to Washington to-day, and if any thing material occurs there I will write to you.

Very Respectfully your Obt. Svt.

Charles Pinckney Esq.
Supt. Branch Mint
New Orleans
La

James Ross Snowden
Director

To
Supt. at New Orleans

Transmission of bills

Also. Instructions to
purchase Silver at
present rates, payment
to be made at Boston
or N.Y. at the option
of the Department

Feb 6. 1855

Mint U. S. Philad.a Feb. 6. 1854

Dear Sir

As I informed you yesterday, I have been called upon by a gentleman from the city of Lima in Peru, for advice and aid, in respect to certain work required in the coinage of that country.

The character of the work is this: The dies have been engraved and delivered by an artist in New York; but the hubs taken from them, are found to be imperfect, and consequently cannot be used. It is therefore necessary that these should be made over again and the impressions rendered perfect — it is a work requiring peculiar skill, and a practical acquaintance with the operations of the Mint — and even an experienced engraver, not thus qualified or directed, would be likely to fail in the undertaking.

Whilst I have appriz̃ed the gentleman that the work could not be done in the Mint: my sympathy with his difficulty, arising as it has, out of his preference for our artists, has led me to suggest the possibility of the employment on it, out of the Mint of Mr. Cross, if he can be spared temporarily a sufficient time from the service of the Mint.

This is a matter however which must require your approval.

Very Respectf.y

Yours &c.

James B. Longacre

R. Snowden Esq.r
Director

арлид 6

17

Treasury Department
February 11th 1855

Sir,

Herewith, is inclosed a copy of a Resolution of the Senate of the U States, relative to Silver purchased for re-coinage at the Mint at Philadelphia and the Branch Mint at New Orleans; - To enable me to comply with this resolution, you will please report as soon as may be the amounts purchased at each place, with the prices paid, and the dates thereof, within the Calender year 1854. Please send at the same time, copies of your several notices for the purchase of Silver. -

I am very respectfully
James Guthrie
Secretary of the Treasury

Mr. Ross Snowden Esq
Director of the Mint
Philadelphia
Pa

From Hon James Guthrie
Sec. of the Treasury
Washington

Enclosing a Resolution
of the Senate respecting
Silver Purchases at the
Mint & R. Mint & Assay
Means &c. & requesting
the necessary appropriation

Rec'd Oct 12, 1855

(Copy)

In the Senate of the United States.-

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Treasury be requested to communicate to the Senate, a Statement Shewing 1st, The amount of Silver purchased by the Department for re-coinage at the United States Mint at Philadelphia, during the year Eighteen hundred and fifty four and the price paid therefor, and a similar Statement in regard to the Branch Mint at New Orleans.- 2d. The reasons for any difference of price which may have been paid for silver received at said mint at Philadelphia and Branch Mint at New Orleans.-

Attest

Asbury Dickins
Secretary

February 13th. 5.

Sir:

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your favor of the 11th. inst., asking my attention to a resolution of the Senate of the United States, as follows:

"Resolved, That the Secretary of the Treasury be requested to communicate to the Senate a statement shewing 1st. The amount of Silver purchased by the department for re-coinage at the United States mint at Philadelphia, during the year Eighteen hundred and fifty four and the price paid therefor, and a similar statement in regard to the Branch Mint at New Orleans. 2d. The reasons for any difference of price which may have been paid for Silver re-coined at said mint at Philadelphia and Branch Mint at New Orleans."

To enable you to give the information called for in this resolution, the following statements are respectfully submitted.

1. The amount of Silver purchased during the year 1854 at the mint at Philadelphia was $2,387,758.72, of which sum $717,966.37 was purchased under the circulars of July 25, and of December 21, 18 at 121 cents per ounce of Standard fineness, and the sum of $1,669,792.35 was purchased under the circu-

of June 24, 1854, at 122½ cents per ounce. The sum of $1,305,997.95 was purchased at New Orleans at 121 cents per ounce under the circular of December 21, 1853. It is proper to remark that at the end of the year of 1853 the branch mint at New Orleans had a large amount of uncoined silver bullion on hand, namely $3,764,000.00, of which, the sum of $2,000,000.00 was transferred to the Mint at Philadelphia for coinage. Copies of the circulars referred to are hereto attached.

2. When the purchasing rates of Silver were increased at the mint in Philadelphia, by the circular of June 24th., 1854, no change in the price for this metal at the branch mints was deemed necessary or expedient, for, in addition to the amount on hand at the branch at New Orleans at the beginning of the year, the supply of Silver thereat remained undiminished - so much so, that it became necessary in order to meet the demand for Silver coins at this mint, to have two millions in Silver bullion transferred hither from that branch, as already stated, at a great expense for transportation to the government. In addition to this fact, being invited by a communication of 19 June last from the department, "to state what price could be afforded for Silver to cover the cost of coinage, supposing it to be coined at the place where it is delivered" In ~~xxxx my~~ reply on 24 of same month in answer to your inquiry, I stated "it there where we most need the bullion, and it seems to contravene the laws of trade to have the same price at distant points. At New Orleans they have a considerable supply of Silver bullion and at San Francisco a large

coinage of that metal does not seem necessary, and might be beyond their power to execute. I may add, also, that the increased price might induce the offering of more silver at New Orleans than could be coined there and thus render it necessary for the government to be at the expense of its transportation here, which could not be done without loss in view of the small profit on the operation, the price being predicated upon the supposition that the coinage will be executed at the place where the purchase is made." and notwithstanding the variation during the last half of the year made by the increased price paid here in the rates of purchase at this mint and the branch at New Orleans, the supply of Silver at the latter institution continued unimpaired and exhibited no decrease until the month of November, so that prior to that date no necessity existed for an increase in the purchasing price of that metal at that branch. In the beginning of December, 1854, however being informed by the Superintendent at New Orleans that the supply of Silver bullion at his branch mint had so far diminished as to render an increase in the price paid for it necessary, I accordingly wrote to the Department on the 16th. of that month, as follows: "When the purchasing price of Silver at the mint was raised from 121 cents to 122½ cents per ounce, the branch at New Orleans was fully supplied with Silver bullion, and hence the price was not increased at that point, but the reasons for the discrimination having now ceased, I propose, with your approbation to increase the price at that place to 122½ cents per ounce of Standard fineness; which authority

being given by you, I immediately notified the Superintendent by telegraph that the tariff of prices for the purchase of Silver fixed by Circular of June 24, 1854, and heretofore restricted to the principal Mint, was extended to his branch at New Orleans.

By reference to my letters of the 17, 22, and 24 June last you will find the reasons for the increase made in the price then paid for Silver purchased at this Mint fully set forth.

I may add in conclusion that the reasons for the difference of prices between the Mint at Philadelphia and at New-Orleans are that there is a difference between the two cities in the market value of Silver bullion. The price offered at the respective mints should of course be the least price which will secure to the government the bullion required to provide Silver Coinage equal to the public demand at each establishment. At New Orleans, on account of its proximity to Mexico, Silver bullion is usually lower than it is at Philadelphia, and a less price will consequently be demanded for the same. Were the government to offer a greater than the ruling market price the effect would be to offer accumulate a stock of Silver coins far beyond what would be required to meet the demands of the public: and since the new coin cannot be legally tendered in amounts above five dollars the government would be entirely unable to dispose of it. It may, therefore, well be considered whether in view of the whole subject and the present large supply of Silver coins at New Orleans — there being at the present

time upwards of one million and a half in silver coins lying idle in the vaults of that institution — it is expedient to continue the present price of 122½ cents per oz. for silver bullion, at that branch.

I have the honor to be,
with great respect,
Your faithful servant.
James Ross Snowden,
Director.

Hon. James Guthrie,
Sec'y of Treasury,
Washington City.

To.
Hon James Guthrie
Sec of the Treasury

Silver Purchases
at Mint & Br Mint
New Orleans during
1854. Price
paid for Same
reasons for differ-
ence given as
early as.

Feb 13, 1855

February 14. 54,

Sir,

I have to inform you that the trial made by the Assay commissioners on the 12th inst of the uncoined coins of your Mint for the year 1854 resulted as follows, viz; the gold coins were registered as $1,274.60 in value; the legal weight was therefore 968.504, the actual weight was found to be 9 thousandths in excess. The fineness of the bar from the melt of the same was 900 7 thousandths, being 7 thousandths above the legal standard. The silver coins were registered as $649 in value; the legal weight was therefore 9 oz 9.20; the actual weight was 9 thousandths in excess. The bar from the melt of these coins was of the fineness 900.3, being 1.3 tenths above the legal standard. These differences being within the limits allowed by law, the trial was considered and reported as satisfactory.

I am, very Respectfully,
James Pollock.
Director.

Charles T. Pleasonton, Esqr.
Supt U.S. Mint
New Orleans

Assay Office U. S. Mint
Feby 15. 1855

J. R. Snowden Esq.
Director &c &c

Sir,

I must request you to procure for me another sample of sweeps from the U. S. Assay Office at New York; the one already tried having given irregular & unsatisfactory results.

J. P. Eckfeldt
Assayer

To
Charles Bienvenu Esq
Supt U.S. Mint
New Orleans

Annual Assay
1854

Feb. 14, 1855

February 14, 55.

Sir,

I have received your letter of the 3d inst with the enclosures stated, and also a package containing the coins reserved at your Branch during the month of January for the Annual Assay.

My account with you is as follows viz:

1854 Dec. 28 I received on your draft $100.00

since that date I have paid the following sums:

To Charles B. Hare $7.05
" Ann Frazer 9.75
" John Obem 16.65 33.45

Balance in my hands $266.55

I enclose the vouchers for the above amounts.

I am, very Respectfully,
Your Obt. Servt.
Saml. Ashe Alexander.
Treasurer.

J. Ross Snowden, Esqr.
Supt. Philada Mint
Philadelphia

February 14. 3.

Sir.

I present the following Statement of account and vouchers for the various sums charged:

The Treasurer of the Church Mutual Insurance Co. in Account with Archibald Hamilton.

1834	May 3	By Balance			$ 34848
"	July 10	To Cash paid Saml. Kirkman	$	3 75	
"	" " "	" " Wagstaff for Dyke		2 50	
"	July 21	" " J. M. Henry		2 50	
"	" " "	" " Do Price		3 75	
"	" 6 "	" " Mrs. Mayo & Returns		131 50	
"	" 7	By Premium of Mayo Lease			23.75
"	" 17	To Cash paid Do Price for Dyke		2 75	
"	" " "	" " " " " Dyke		2 50	
Sept	" 4	By Cash on Drafts			2,000.00
"	" 16	To Cash paid J. Henry		1715 67	
"	" 23	" " " " Mills		2 50	
"	" 30	" " " " A. P. Smyth Rents		1217 50	
1835	Jan 2	" " " " Jno. M. Henry		600.	
		By Balance		72 75	
				$ 3711.00	$ 3711.00

I am, Very Respectfully,
Your Obt. Servt.
Archd. Hamilton.

Charles Pierce Esqr
Secretary &c &c &c

Febuary 14. 5.

Sir,

At my last Statement of account there was a balance due you of $907.26. Since then I have paid To Edwin Hanes $25

To Charles Stan 2295 — 31.20

$907.26

To which Amt add Amt paying 50.00

Balance in my hands $907.26

I enclose herewith Vouchers for the above amounts.

Yours very Respectfully,

James Rob Thompson

Lincoln

Capt. T. Caldwell, Esqr.

Supt. Br. Mint

Charlotte

N.C.

To
L. M. Patton Esq
& W. Caldwell &
Charles Brenivem
Supts, at C. C. Ins. Co

Statement of A/c

Feb 14, 1855

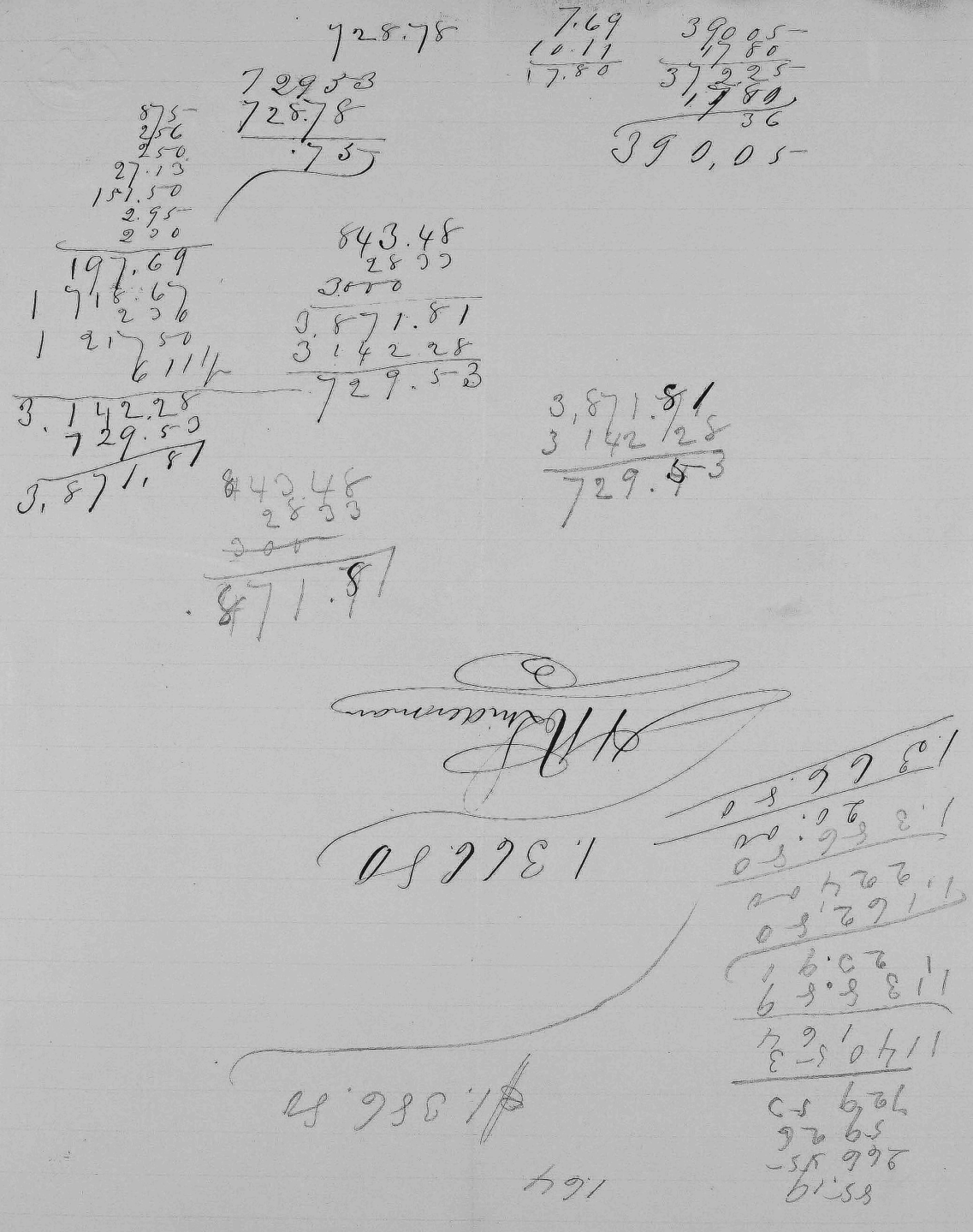
February 16, 5.

Sir,

In the hastily prepared statement of A/c sent you on the 14th inst the balance due you is stated to be $728.74, whereas it should have been stated as $729.83. The error has been corrected and the latter amount placed to your credit.

Very Respectfully,
James Rob Snowden.
Director

Charles Bienvenu, Esq.
Supt. Br Mint.
New Orleans.



To. C. Bennett Esq
Supt B. & Mex
N. O.

correction of error
in a/c

Feb 16, 1855

February 20, 5.

Sir,

Your letter of the 12th inst. enclosing the usual Weekly Statement has been received. I will thank you to cause this Statement in future to be so prepared, that it will show what part of the total Amount for the Week is in Gold and what in Silver Coin.

I Am, very Respectfully,
Your Obt. Servt.
James Ross Snowden.
Director

Charles V. Dimond, Esqr.
Supt. U. S. Mint
San Francisco

To

C. Brinton Esq

Supt Bal Dist

N. C.

Request extension

allocation in

Monthly Statement

Feb 20, 1857

United States Branch Mint,

New Orleans, February 20th 1855.

Sir

I herewith enclose the usual Statement of the Condition of this Branch Mint at the close of the week ending on the 17th day of February 1855.

Very Respectfully

Ch. Nieuwerm

Supt.

Col. James R. Snowden

Director U. S. Mint

Philadelphia

From. C. I. Pourcau, Esqr
Supt. P.R. Mint
New Orleans

Transmits Weekly
Statement

Feb 27. 1855

NEW ORLEANS, 1855 (CONT.)

United States Branch Mint,

New Orleans, February 21. 1855.

Sir,

In your letter of 6 inst. you give me notice that you had sent by Adams & Co. Express a box containing 7 Heads Quarter dollar Dies & 7 Rimers, also 2 Heads Dime Dies. I have received the Box to-day containing the Quarter dollar Dies Stated, but instead of two Heads Dime Dies, I found two Heads Half Dime.

I have given notice in our Newspapers of the change in the mode of payment as instructed by you in your letter of 6 inst.

Very Respectfully.

Ch. Bienvenu

Sup.t

Col. James R. Snowden.

Director U. S. Mint

Philadelphia

From / Supt: Branch mint
at New-Orleans:

Feby: 21/55.

Rec'd March 1—

Dies rec'd - one set was Half
Dimes, and not (as stated) Dimes.

Publication given as directed in
mint of Feb: 6—

U. S. Br. Mint, New Orleans
Treasurer's Office 24 May 24. 1855

Sir,

I beg leave to return to you, for correction, the Statement of the Director. The balance under date May 3d should be $ 843 78/100 to correspond with the account of the Director of the 2d May 1854. In that account the balance to my credit was originally stated at $ 843 48/100, owing to the assay coins for 1853 being credited with $ 2.464.55, the value of the same as reported by the board of assay Commissioners, instead of $ 2:46455 as called for by the Statement transmitted with said coins. This account was sent to the Director & his attention called to this fact, when the necessary correction was made, and the account returned showing a balance to my credit of $ 843 78 as above stated. The balance in the hands of the Director is at present $ 729 83 as will be seen by reference to the enclosed statement.

If practicable, I should like to have the assay coins for 1854 included in the corrected acct.

Very respectfully
James Brewer
Treasurer

C. Bienvenu Esq
Supt. Br. Mint
N. Orleans

Mint of the United States,

Philadelphia, February 14, 1855.

Sir,

I present the following statement of account and enclose vouchers for the various items charged.

The Treasurer of the Branch Mint New Orleans in Ac with Bureau of the Mint.

1854	May 9	By Balance			$845.78
"	June 10	To cash paid James McHenry	$	8 75	
"	" " "	" on Telegraph from Supt.		2 50	
"	July 3	" " J. McHenry		2 50	
"	" " "	" Jno P Tull		2 70	
"	" 6	" " paid Muzzy & Munroe		131 50	
"	" 7	By proceeds of Assay Slips			28.33
"	" 17	To cash paid on T.S. & D. from Supt.		2 95	
"	" " "	" " " " " To Supt.		2 30	
1854	Sept " 14	By cash on Drafts			3,000.00
"	" 16	To cash paid A. Lenig		1.718 67	3,871 76
"	" 23	" " " on T.L.D.		2 30	
"	" 30	" " " A.P. Tompkins		1217 50	
1855.	Jan 27	" " " Jno McHenry		610	
		By Balance		729 85	
				$3,871.76	$3,871.76

I am, very Respectfully,
Your Ob. Servt.
James Ross Snowden
Director.

Charles Weinecum Esqr
Supt. U.S. Mint
New Orleans.

Dr. The Treasurer of the Branch Mint New-Orleans in a/c with the Director of the United States Mint. Cr.

1854				Dollars	Cts	1854			Dollars	Cts
June	13	To Cash paid	Sam. McC. Henry	8	75	May	3	By Balance as per Account rendered this date	843	78
	"	" " "	Telegraph from Supt.	2	56	July	7	" Proceeds of Assay Slips	28	33
July	3	" " "	S. W. Henry	2	50	Sept.	14	" Cash on Draft	3000	00
	"	" " "	S. P. Tull	27	13					
	6	" " "	Murray & Munroe	151	50					
	17	" " "	Telegraph from Supt.	2	95					
	"	" " "	do " do	2	30					
Sept.	16	" " "	N. Lennig & Co.	1718	67					
	23	" " "	Telegraph from Supt.	2	30					
	30	" " "	A. P. Tompkins	1217	50					
1855 Jany	2	" " "	S. McC. Henry	6	11½					
		" To Balance to be		729	83					
				3.872	11				3.872	11

United States Branch Mint,

New Orleans, Feb 26. 1855.

Sir

I have received your letter informing me of the trial made by the Assay Commissioners on the 12 inst., of the assorted Coins of our Mint for the year 1854.

Also the account of the Treasurer of this Branch Mint with the Director of U. S. Mint, which I beg leave to return to you for correction as explained in the letter of the Treasurer hereby enclosed.

Very Respectfully

Ch Howard

Supt

Col. James C. Snowden

Director U. S. Mint

Philadelphia

From Supt at New Orleans

Returns Statements
of A/s for connection
also encloses
Weekly Statement.

Mar 5, 1855

United States Branch Mint,

New Orleans, February 26th 1855.

No 10

Enclosed is the Statement of the Operations of this Branch Mint, at the Close of the week ending on the 24th February 1855.

Very Respectfully

C. Bienvenu

Supt.

Col James R. Snowden

Director U. S. Mint

Philadelphia

March 8th 48.

Sir:

Your communication of the 21st ult. has been received.

My letter transmitting box of dies for your branch contained an error in stating 2 heads to be of Dime dies. It was the intention to forward Half dime heads, and therefore the error was a clerical one.

I am, very respectfully,
James Ross Snowden.
Director.

Charles Bienvenu, Esq.,
Supdt. Branch Mint,
New Orleans, La.

To/ Supt. Branch Mint
at New Orleans.

March 1, 1855.

Receipt of his letter of
21 Feb.
2 Head dies were of Half Dimes.

March 1855

March 5, 5.

Sir,

I have received your letters of the 26th ult. with the enclosures stated. Enclosed please find statement of account with the error refunded corrected, and the proceeds of your assay coins for 1854 included, viz: $1,928.50 which added to $729,83 makes a balance due your Treasurer of $2,653.33.

I am very Respectfully
Sam. R. Roberts.
Director

Charles A. Dennens, Esqr.
Supt. U.S. Mint,
New Orleans.

Dr. The Treasurer of the Branch Mint New Orleans in

1854						Dollars	cts
June	13	To	Cash	paid	James McHenry	8	75
	"	"	"	"	Telegraph from Supt.	2	56
July	3	"	"	"	J. McHenry	2	50
	"	"	"	"	J. P. Tull	27	13
	6	"	"	"	Muggy & Bunner	151	50
	17	"	"	"	Telegraph from Supt	2	90
	"	"	"	"	" To Supt.	2	50
Sept.	16	"	"	"	A Lemmy & Co.	1718	67
	23	"	"	"	Telegraph from Supt.	2	30
	30	"	"	"	A. F. Tompsons	1217	50
1838 Jan	27	"	"	"	J McHenry	6	11
					By Balance	2.6	83
						5795	61

a/c with the Director of the United States Mint Co.

1854			Dollars Cts.
May	3	By Balance as per a/c rendered	84378
July	7	" Proceeds of Assay Slips	2833
Sept	14	" Cash on Draft	300000
March	8	" Proceeds of Assay Coins	1,923.50
			$ 7,995.61

Dr. The Treasurer of the Branch Mint New Orleans in A/c with the Director of the United States Mint Cr.

1854				Dollars cts	1854			Dollars Cts
June	13	To Cash paid	James McHenry	875	May	3	By Balance as per A/c rendered	84378
"	"	"	" Telegraph from Supt.	256	July	7	" Proceeds of Assay Slips	2533
July	3	"	" J. McHenry	250	Sept.	14	" Cash on Drafts	3,000 00
"	"	"	" J. P. Tull	2713	1855 March	8	" Proceeds of Assay Coins	1,923 50
	6	"	" Murphy & Munroe	13150				
	7	"	" Telegraph from Supt.	295				
	"	"	" " "	230				
Sept	16	"	" A Lanuier & Co	171867				
	23	"	" Telegraph from Supt.	230				
	30	"	" A P Tompkins	121750				
1855 Jan	27	"	" J. McHenry	611				
			By Balance	2,653.33				
				5795 61				5.795 61

To.

Charles Bigelow Esq
Supt at Orleans

Transmit corrected
Statement of A/c

Mar 8, 1835

United States Branch Mint,

New Orleans, March 5. 1855.

Sir,

I enclose Statements of Deposits and Coinage & of Coins received for Assay during the Month of February together with the usual weekly Statement which has been made in accordance with your instructions.

The Assay coins have been forwarded by this days mail.

Very Respectfully.

Ch Thevenin

Supt.

Col. James R. Snowden

Director U.S. Mint

Philadelphia

From J. G.
Chas Boisseau Esq
Supt U.S. Mint
New Orleans

Transmits Statements
Assay Coins for
Feb

12 Mar 1835

Statement of **Gold** *and* **Silver** *Coins reserved for assaying at the Branch Mint of the United States, New Orleans, during the month of* February *1855.*

Date.		Deliveries.	Deliveries.	Pieces.	Value.		Total Value.	
					Dollars.	Cts.	Dollars.	Cts.
1855		Gold						
February	20	Gold Dollars	20.000	20	20	00		
	28	Double Eagles	3000	3	60	00		
							80	00
		Silver						
February	10	Half Dollars	100.000	20	10	00		
	20	Quarter Dollars	176.000	35	8	75		
	28	Half Dollars	100.000	20	10	00		
	"	Half Dollars	80.000	16	8	00		
							36	75
					Dollars.		116	75

Branch Mint U. S. New Orleans.
Treasurer's Office February 28th 1855
James Brewer
Treasurer

N. Thompson
Assayer

James Brewer Esq.

New Orleans Feby 26, 1855.

Statement of Assay coins received during the Month of February 1855.

March 12, 5.

Sir,

I have received your letter of the 8th inst. with the inclosures stated, and also, a package containing the coins received at your Mint during the month of February for the Annual Assay.

In transmitting your Assay coins hereafter you will please cause the postage on the same to be prepaid.

I am, very Respectfully,
Your Obt Servt.
James Ross Snowden.

Charles Bienvenu, Esqr,
Supt U.S. Mint
New Orleans.

United States Branch Mint,

New Orleans, March 13th 1855.

Sir,

I have herewith Statement of the Condition of this Branch Mint at the close of the week ending March 10th 1855.

I have recd your letter of the 5th inst. containing the Statement of account corrected as referred to in my letter of 25th ult.

I am very Respectfully

Chas. Norris

Supt.

Col. James R. Snowden

Director U.S. Mint

Philadelphia

From.
Supt New Orleans

Enclosing Monthly
Statements &
Acct Current of
St. A/c

Mar 22, 1883

March 14, 1835.

Sir,

I have to acknowledge your favor of yesterday enclosing a letter from Mr Forstall, of New Orleans, dated the 6th inst, in which he asks redress for a presumed error in the Branch Mint at that place having paid him for certain Silver bullion only upon the weight after melting, instead of upon the weight before melting, upon which latter basis he supposes that the price is estimated. I have no doubt whatever as to the correctness of the action of the Branch Mint. It conforms to the uniform practice at this Mint, and, what is of more importance, to the essential reasons of the case. It should be considered that what the metal loses by melting is dirt and valueless matter of various kinds. Now it is very clear that we never designed to buy dirt, grease &c at the price of Silver, which on Mr Forstalls construction would be assumed to be the case. It is well known that in a large mass of coin, even when apparently clean, a perceptible amount of such worthless matter will always be found. For this it is not proper for the Mint to pay, and if that has been the practice at that Branch Mint heretofore it has not been in conformity with the intention of the instructions issued from this office.

It is proper to add that, in practice, the

silver is not always melted, in order to determine the precise amount of worthless matters, but a deduction, based on long experience and a consideration of the general appearance as to cleanliness &c of the coin, is made without a actual melting. This is likely to be a smaller deduction than would be found on a actual melting; but should the depositor be dissatisfied a melt is always made.

I have the honor to be,
With great respect,
Your faithful Servant.
James Ross Snowden
Director.

Hon. James Guthrie
Sec. of the Treasury
Washington City.

P.S. The enclosures contained in your letter are returned herewith as requested.

Treasury Department
March 15. 1855.

Sir.

I enclose for your examination a letter received from Mr. E. S. Tootall of N. Orleans which he requests to return to the Department with your Report.

I am very Respy.
Jas. Guthrie
Sec. of the Treasury.

J. R. Snowden Esq.
Director of the Mint,
Philada.

From & To

Hon. James Guthrie

Sec. of the Treasy

Enclosing a letter of

Mr Forstal of New Orleans

respecting Suppose

error in paying him

for Silver Bullion.

Mar 14. 1853

United States Branch Mint,

New Orleans, March 20th 1855.

Sir

Please find enclosed the Statement of the Condition of this Branch Mint, at the close of the week ending on the 17th March 1855.

Very Respectfully

Ch. Bienvenu

Supt.

Col. James R. Snowden

Director U. S. Mint

Philadelphia.

From
Supt at Salem

W Statement

Jan 20. 1835

Branch Mint of the United States
New Orleans 30th March 1855

Dear Sir,

I very much regret to inform you that an unpleasant controversy has, for several Days past been carried on between the Superintendent of the U.S. Branch Mint and myself, in my capacity of Cashier of said Institution. Satisfied of being right in the position taken by me, and unwilling that my course as a Cashier should be misrepresented, I take the liberty of asking of you as a favor, to ask, as far as you may consistently interfere in this matter, a fair investigation of the difficulty now pending between the Superintendent and

Your very obedient Servant
A. Guirot
Cashier

Hon John Slidell

Letter from the
Comm'r of the
New Orleans Mint
sent by the
Hon J. Shields
April 6th 1853

April 1853

United States Branch Mint,

New Orleans, March 31st 1855.

Sir,

I have to inform you that having received the New-Engine for the Mint, and it being found to be in good order, I have this day suspended the operations of the Coining Department for the purpose of putting down the old Engine, and make room for the erection of the new-one. I shall make all kind of exertions to be ready to resume our official duties as soon as possible. I have advertised the old Machinery for sale, as it cannot be of any service to our institution.

Every thing has been going very well, with the exception of the Conduct of the Coiner in several circumstances and more particularly on the 20th inst, as reported to you in my letter of 24th inst.

I will respectfully called your attention upon some amendments to our regulations, for instance: instead of saying, a day's work shall be ten hours throughout the year, I will suggest the following amendment to wit: A day's work shall be ten hours from the 1st of October to the end of May, and nine hours from the 1st of June to the end of September, and

instead of saying The work shall Commence at seven o'clock in the morning and continue until five o'clock in the afternoon, I will offer the following amendment. From the first of October to the end of May, the work shall Commence at 7 o'clock in the morning and continue until five in the afternoon, and from the 1st of June to the end of September, the work shall Commence at 6 o'clock in the morning and continue until 3 o'clock in the afternoon.

My object is simply this; from June to September is the season of Sickness in our city, and I believe that if the work was only during 9 hours during that season and begin sooner in the morning it would prove beneficial to the workmen.

Very Respectfully
your Ob't Servant
Chas Penrose
Sup't

Col. James R. Snowden
Director U. S. Mint
Philadelphia.

From Supt at
New Orleans

Respecting operations
of the Coining Dept
& suggesting certain
alterations in
Regulations &c

April 1, 1853

United States Branch Mint,

New Orleans, April 7th 1855.

Sir,

I have herewith Statement of the Condition of this Branch Mint at the close of the week ending April 7th 1855.

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 31st ultc.

Very Respectfully
Your obt. Servt.
Chs. Nevers
Supt.

Col. James R. Snowden
Director U. S. Mint
Philadelphia

From / Supt. Branch Mint
New Orleans

April 16/65.

Encld. Statement for week
ending with April 7

April 9. 5.

Sir,

An unpleasant controversy has arisen at the Branch Mint at New-Orleans between the Superintendent and the Chief Coiner. In order that the subject may be fully presented to you I enclose for your examination the communications I have received from these officers also a letter from the Hon. Mr Slidell who transmitted the papers of the Chief Coiner. The papers from the Superintendent were received on the 31st ult. On that day the telegraphic despatch enclosed, was also received from the Coiner, and I awaited the reception of the papers therein referred to before considering the subject. I notice that he complains that he had no opportunity of interrogating Mr Palmer (the foreman) as to the facts stated in his certificate. But as the only point in controversy is admitted by both parties it does not seem necessary to direct a re-examination. I am sorry to notice this want of harmony between the officers in question, and deeply regret that it becomes necessary to decide the point at issue between them.

The principal duty of the Coiner is to execute all the operations which are necessary in order to form coins, conformable in all respects to the Law, from the standard ingots delivered to him for that purpose, and to deliver these coins from time to time as they are prepared, to the Treasurer. His

other duties are subordinary to this, but in the discharge of them all he is to be regarded as the subordinate of the Superintendent who has the control and management of the Branch Mint subject to the provisions contained in the 4th Section of the Act of March 3. 1835 which places the general direction of the business of the branches under the control and regulation of the officers of the Mint, subject to the approbation of the Secretary of the Treasury.

It would seem therefore that in regard to any duty pertaining to the coining or other departments of the Mint the authority of the Superintendent is paramount to that of any other Officer of such institution.

It is certainly a convenient and judicious practice to confer with the respective Officers on subjects connected with their particular Branch of business, but under some circumstances the Superintendent may think it proper to take a different course. In the case in hand the duty of putting up a steam engine does not technically belong to either of the departments. The power of the new engine will be applied to the Melting & Refining department as well as to the Coining, and with us — and, as I take it, in it is portable at New Orleans — to the Assay Office in agitating the bottles for the humid Assay. So that the direction by the Superintendent to the foreman would seem proper and the interference with that order by the Coiner was irregular.

Having thus briefly expressed my opinion

upon this unhappy dispute I submit the case to your judgment and decision.

I have the honor to be,
With great respect,
Your faithful Servant,
James Rochester.
Collector.

Hon. James Guthrie,
Sec. of the Treasury,
Washington City.

To,
Hon. J. Guthrie
Sec of Treasury

Presenting my opinion on
the misunderstanding
between the Supt at N. Orleans
& also transmit certain
papers relating to the
same,

Ap 10, 1855

April 12 th.; 6

Sir:

Your favor of the 11th. inst., with the enclosures stated, has been received, and the letters transmitted as directed.

I have received a communication from the Superintendent of the Branch Mint at New Orleans in which he proposes to have so much of the regulations for the government of that institution amended, as prescribe the hours of work throughout the year:

He suggests that, inasmuch as the sickly season commences in this City about the first of Summer and continues until the close of the first month of fall - the work during that period - (from 1st: of June to 30 th: of September inclusively) - shall commence at 6 o'clock A.M. and continue until 3 o'clock P.M. and that from 1st: of October to 31st: of May, the hours of work shall be between 7 o'clock A.M. and 5 o'clock P.M., as prescribed by the regulations referred to. During the season of sickness the number of working hours, you will notice, would thus be reduced from ten to nine, by which alteration the Superintendent thinks the health of the workmen would be less endangered than under the present operation of the regulations.

In view of the fact that it is important that the health of the workmen should be unimpaired and the operation of this branch unimpeded, I respectfully recommend

the suggestion of the Superintendent to your approval.

I have the honor to be,
with great respect,
Your faithful Servants.
James Ross Snowden
Director.

Hon. James Guthrie,
Secretary of Treasury,
Washington City.

To Secretary of Treasury.

April 12/55.

Proposition to change time of work at branch at New Orleans during sickly season thereat.

U. S. Branch Mint, New-Orleans
Melter & Refiners Office,
April 11th 1855.

Dear Sir,

It has been my intention, for several years past, to apply for a leave of absence to enable me to go to Europe, in order to finally settle and arrange some family-business, of some importance to different members of my family and myself. In the year 1853 I applied to the then Superintendent, R. M. McAlpin, Esqr., for this purpose, who referred the subject to the Director. Without awaiting his action, I proceeded, at the suggestion and with permission, of the Supt, to Philadelphia with the intention of presenting my case personally to the Director, and if need be, to the Department at Washington. Just before reaching Philadelphia I saw in the newspapers, that a new Superintendent, Cashier, and Treasurer had been appointed to this mint, and under these circumstances, I deemed it my duty to return without delay, so that I might assist the newly appointed officers to the best of my ability, and thus gave up my intended voyage.

I would now respectfully request you to inform the Director, that I desire to absent myself during the space of about four months, if, in your opinion, such an absence, would not interfere with the efficiency of my department, or conflict with the established customs and regulations.

Very Respectfully
Your Obt. Servt
A. F. Bonzano
Melter & Refiner.

Chas. Bienvenu, Esq.
Superintendent.

United States Branch Mint,

New Orleans, April 13th 1855.

Sir,

I hereby enclose a letter of Dr. M. F. Dongan Melter & Refiner of this Branch Mint, addressed to me for the purpose of obtaining for him a leave of absence during four months. His intention is to go to Europe in order to settle and arrange some important family business. His absence will not in any way interfere with the proper management of his department, as his Foreman Mr. Thomas Eiderman, is in my opinion fully capable of conducting his department, and is worthy of the fullest confidence.

Dr. Dongan has been employed as Melter & Refiner in this establishment since seven years, and to my knowledge has not only fulfilled his duties with diligence & skill, but at the same time has always contrived to give the benefit of his profound studies & experience to the improvement and best interests of our institution. I would be sorry if Dr. Dongan would be compelled by the exigency of the moment to leave the Mint. The Government would thus loose one of its most faithful servants.

I therefore hope, Sir, that you will strongly urge

his solicitation near the Secretary of the Treasury, and obtain for him that leave of absence. May I be permitted to state, that in my opinion, his long and useful services to the government, entitle him to that favor.

Very Respectfully
your Ob. Servant.
Chs. Bienvenu
Supt.

Col. James R. Snowden
Director U. S. Mint
Philadelphia

From / Supt. Branch mint.
New Orleans.

April 20/55.

Enclosing & recommending an application of the Melter & Refiner for leave of absence for 4 months to settle business in Europe

United States Branch Mint,

New Orleans, April 16 1855.

Sir,

Please find enclosed the Statement of the Condition of this Branch Mint, at the close of the week ending on the 14th of April 1855.

Very Respectfully,

Ch. Nieuwerm

Sup.t

Col. James R. Snowden.

Director U. S. Mint.

Philadelphia

From Supt. Branch Mint at
New Orleans.

April 23. 1855.

Statement for week ending
with 14 th. inst:

Treasury Department
April 16th 1855.

Sir

I have received yours of the 12th inst and you will be pleased to authorise the changes in the working hours at the Branch Mint at N. Orleans as suggested by the Superintendent.

I am very Respt
James Guthrie
Sec of the Treasury

D. N. Snowden Esq
Director of the Mint.

From / Secretary of Treasury /

April 17/ 55.

Approving of alterations suggested in hours of work at New Orleans branch Mint.

Treasury Department
April 16. 1855

Sir:

Upon a careful perusal of the letters and evidence in relation to a difficulty between the Superintendent and the Coiner of the Mint at New Orleans, growing out of a direction of the Superintendent to Mr. Palms the foreman of the Coiner, as to taking into the Mint the Machinery for the new Steam Engine to be put up there, and which order the Coiner countermanded, and out of which an unpleasant correspondence took place. My judgment is in accordance with the opinion expressed by you that the Superintendent had a right to give the direction he did to Mr. Palms, particularly as it did not interfere with anything in the Coiners branch of duties, and that the Coiner was wrong in countermanding the direction of the Superintendent. I regret that this difficulty should have arisen particularly as much feeling seems to have grown out of it and which, if not accommodated, may result injuriously to the public service.

You will take such measures as you deem prudent and right to insure the harmony required in that branch of the service.

I am, very Respy
James Guthrie
Secretary of the Treasury

J. Ross Snowden Esq.
Director of the Mint
Philadelphia

From / Secretary of Treasury

April 17, 1855.

Deciding with me the point at
issue between Supdt. Hoiner at New
Orleans.

April 17th 5.

Sir,

I have your favor of yesterday in relation to the difficulty at the Branch Mint at New Orleans, & do not retain Copies of the Letters and evidence which were transmitted to you. I have to request that you will cause them to be returned to me.

I will endeavor to communicate the decision of the matter in question in such way as to restore harmony between the officers.

I have the honor to be
with great respect
your Ob. Servt.

James Ross Snowden
Director U.S. Mint.

Hon. Jno. Guthrie
Sec. of the Treasury
Washington City.

To Secretary of Treasury.

April 17/53.

Requesting return of letter &c. relative
to question between Supt: & Cajen at N. Orleans.

April 17th. 5.

Sir:

Your letter of 31st. ult: suggesting a modification of the working hours at your branch, has been received, and you are hereby authorized so to amend the regulations prescribed for the government of your institution, that the hours of work from the 1st. of June to the 30th. September inclusively, shall be between the hours of 6 o'clock, A.M. and 6 o'clock, P.M. From the 1st. of October to the 31st. of May, inclusively, the time of work will continue as directed by the regulations referred to.

I am, very respectfully,

James Pollock.
Director.

Charles Briggs, Esq.
Supt. Branch Mint,
New Orleans.

To Charles Bienvenu,
Supt. Branch Mint.
New Orleans.

April 17th. /55.

Alterations suggested in his letter of 31 ult.
of the time of work at his branch approved.

April 18th., 5.

Dear Sir:

Your letter with the papers enclosed, relative to the unpleasant difficulty between the Superintendent and Coiner at the branch mint at New-Orleans, was duly received and carefully considered.

As a convenient mode of informing you of the views entertained of the point in question by the Secretary of the Treasury and myself, I enclose copies of the correspondence between us, and also a copy of my letter to the Superintendent, sent by this days mail, announcing the decision of the question.

In communicating the result to Mr. Guiros I will be glad if you convey to him the assurance of my personal and official regard, and to say that I earnestly hope that all unpleasant differences may hereafter be avoided, and the harmony which should characterize the action of officers having the same great public interests to subserve, fully restored.

Very respectfully,
Your obt. Servt.

Hon: J. Slidell,
U. S. Senator, La.-

Mint of the United States,
Philadelphia April 9th. 1855.

Sir,

An unpleasant controversy has arisen at the Branch Mint at New Orleans between the Superintendent and the Coiner. In order that the subject may be fully presented to you, I enclose for your examination the communications I have received from these Officers. Also, a letter from the Hon: Wm Medill who transmitted the papers of the Coiner. The papers from the Superintendent were received on the 31st. ultimo. On that day the telegraphic dispatch enclosed was also received from the Coiner, and I awaited the reception of the papers therein referred to before considering the subject. I notice that he complains that he had no opportunity of interrogating Mr Palmer (the foreman) as to the facts stated in his certificate, but as the only point in controversy is admitted by both parties, it does not seem necessary to direct a re-examination. I am sorry to notice this want of harmony between the Officers in question, and deeply regret that it becomes necessary to decide the point at issue between them.

The principal duty of the Coiner is to execute all the operations which are necessary in order to form coins, conformable in all respects to the law, from the standard ingots delivered to him for that purpose, and to deliver these coins from time to time as they are prepared to the Treasurer. His other duties are subsidiary to this, but in the discharge of them all he is to be regarded as the subordinate of the Superintendent who has the control and management of the Branch Mint, subject to the provisions contained in the 4th section of the Act of March 3. 1837

under the control and regulation of the Director of the Mint, subject to the approbation of the Secretary of the Treasury.

It would seem, therefore, that in regard to any duty pertaining to the Coining or other departments of the Mint, the authority of the Superintendent is paramount to that of any other officer of such institution.

It is certainly a convenient and judicious practice to confer with the respective Officers on subjects connected with their particular branch of business, but under some circumstances the Superintendent may think it proper to take a different course. In the case in hand the duty of putting up a Steam Engine does not technically belong to either of the departments. The power of the new Engine will be applied to the Melter & Refiner's department as well as to the Coiner's, and with no doubt, in like manner, it is probable at New Orleans, — to the Assay Office in agitating the bottles for the humid Assay. So that the discretion of the Superintendent to the foreman would seem proper, and the interference with that order by the Coiner irregular.

Having thus briefly expressed my opinion upon this unhappy dispute, I submit the case for your judgment and decision.

I have the honor to be,

With great respect,

Your faithful Servant,

(signed) James Ross Snowden

Director

Hon. James Guthrie

Secretary of the Treasury

Washington City

Treasury Department.
April 16, 1855.

Sir,

Upon a careful perusal of the letters and evidence in relation to a difficulty between the Superintendent and the Coiner of the Mint at New Orleans, growing out of a direction of the Superintendent to Mr Palms the foreman of the Coiner, as to taking into the Mint the machinery for the new Steam Engine to be put up there, and which order the Coiner countermanded; and out of which an unpleasant correspondence took place, my judgment is in accordance with the opinion expressed by you that the Superintendent had a right to give the direction he did to Mr Palms, particularly as it did not interfere with any thing in the Coiner's branch of duties, and that the Coiner was wrong in countermanding the direction of the Superintendent. I regret that this difficulty should have arisen, particularly as much feeling seems to have grown out of it and which, if not accommodated, may result injuriously to the public service.

You will take such measures as you deem prudent and right to insure the harmony required in that branch of the service.

I am very respectfully,
(signed) James Guthrie
Secretary of the Treasury

J. Ross Snowden Esq.
Director of the Mint
Philadelphia.

Mint of the United States.
Philadelphia April 17th 1855.

Sir,

I enclose copies of my correspondence with the Department for decision of the question which has unfortunately been raised between yourself and the Coiner of your branch Mint.

In general, whenever such a course is not impracticable, it would be well for you when matters having relation to a particular department of the institution under your charge are under consideration, to confer with the Officer of the department interested. I can recognize instances, however, in which such a course would not be advisable, and your discretion is therefore relied upon to direct your official conduct in this respect.

It is very much to be regretted that questions of this nature should be agitated, since they are calculated to destroy that harmony in the intercourse of Officers which it is so necessary in institutions of a public character to maintain. In the present case this unhappy discussion was induced, I have no doubt, by a misconception upon the part of the Coiner, in whose discretion and official integrity, I have every confidence.

I am, very respectfully,
(signed) James Ross Snowden.
Director.

Charles Bienvenu Esq.
Supt. Branch Mint New Orleans.

Hon J. Slidell, U.S. Senator,
New-Orleans,
La.

April 18/58.

Communication decision of dispute between Supt. Hosmer of branch mint at New-Orleans.

April 18th., 6.

Sir:

I enclose copies of my correspondence with the Department, for decision of the question which has unfortunately been raised between yourself and the Coiner of your branch mint.

In general, whenever such a course is not impracticable, it would be well for you when matters having relation to a particular department of the institution under your charge are under consideration, to confer with the Officer of the department interested. I can recognize instances, however, in which such a course would not be be advisable and your discretion is therefore, relied upon to direct your official conduct in this respect.

It is very much to be regretted that questions of this nature should be agitated, since they are calculated to destroy that harmony in the intercourse of officers which it is so necessary in institutions of a public character to maintain. In the present case this unhappy discussion was induced, I have no doubt, by a misconception upon the part of the Coiner, in whose discretion and official integrity, I have every confidence.

I am, very respectfully,

Director.

Charles Bienvenu, Esq:,
Supt. Branch mint, New Orleans.

Mint of the United States
Philadelphia, April 9th, 1868.

Sir:

An unpleasant controversy has arisen at the branch Mint at San Francisco between the Superintendent and the Coiner. In order that the subject may be fully presented to you I enclose for examination the communications I have received from them, also a letter from the Hon. Mr. Slidell who transmitted to me the papers from the Superintendent were received on the 31st: ultimo. On that day the telegraphic dispatch was also received from the Coiner, and I awaited the receipt of the papers therein referred to before considering the subject. You will observe that he complains that he had no opportunity of interviewing Mr. Helms (the foreman) as to the facts stated in his letter but as the only point in controversy is admitted by both parties it does not seem necessary to direct a re-examination. It is to be noted this want of harmony between the officers in charge and daily agents that it becomes necessary to decide the questions between them.

The principal duty of the Coiner is to execute all the orders which are necessary in order to form coins, conformable in all respects to the laws, from the standard ingots delivered to him for that purpose and to deliver these coins from time to time as they are prepared and tendered. All other duties are subsidiary to this, but in the discharge of them all he is to be regarded as the subordinate of the Superintendent who has the control and management of the branch Mint subject to the provisions contained in the 11th: Section of the Act

March 3, 1887, which placed the general direction of the business of the branches under the control and regulation of the Director of the Mint, subject to the approbation of the Secretary of the Treasury.

It would seem, therefore, that in regard to any duty pertaining to the coining or other departments of the Mint, the authority of the Superintendent is paramount to that of any other officer of such institutions.

It is certainly a convenient and judicious practice to consult with the respective officers on subjects connected with their particular branch of business, but under some circumstances the Superintendent may think it proper to take a different course. In the case in hand the duty of putting up a steam engine does not technically belong to either of the departments. The power of the new engine will be of use to the Melter & Refiner's department as well as to the Coiners, and hence — and, in like manner, it is probable at New Orleans, — to the Assay Office in agitating the bottles for the humid assay. So that direction of the Superintendent to the foreman would seem proper and the interference with that order by the Coiner irregular.

Having thus briefly expressed my opinion upon this unofficial note, I submit the case for your judgment and decision.

I have the honor to be,
With great respect,
Your faithful Servant:
(Signed) James Ross Snowden,
Director.

To: James Guthrie,
Sec. of Treasury,
Washington City.

Treasury Department:
April 16, 1855.

Sir:

Upon a careful perusal of the letters and evidence in relation to a difficulty between the Superintendent and the Coiner of the mint at New Orleans, growing out of a direction of the Superintendent to Mr. Palms the foreman of the coinier, as to taking into the mint the machinery for the new steam Engine to be put up there, and which order the Coinier countermanded, and out of which an unpleasant correspondence took place, my judgment is in accordance with the opinion expressed by you that the Superintendent had a right to give the direction he did to Mr. Palms particularly as it did not interfere with anything in the Coiner's branch of duties, and that the Coinier was wrong in countermanding the direction of the Superintendent. I regret that this difficulty should have arisen particularly as much feeling seems to have grown out of it and which, if not accommodated, may result injuriously to the public service.

You will take such measures as you deem prudent and right to insure the harmony required in that branch of the service.

I am, very respectfully,
(signed) James Guthrie,
Secretary of the Treasury.

A. Boyd Snowden Esq.,
Director of the Mint,
Philadelphia.

To/ Supt. Branch Mint:
~~San Francisco~~
New Orleans.

April 18/55.

Communicating decision of the question
in dispute between himself and the Coiner.

Copy.

Br Mint U. S New Orleans
Treasurers Office April 20th 1854

Sir,

I beg leave to call your attention to abstract No 15. "Deposites of Silver bullion made previous to 1st January 1854 and remaining unpaid at the close of the 1st Quarter of 1854. These Deposites were made during the year 1850, and are the Silver separated from Gold bullion, before it was allowed to Depositors at this Br Mint instructions were afterwards received, to Credit the Silver parted to depositors, none of whom have presented themselves for payment in the last 3 years, nor are their residences known in this Office, as it is not probable that any more of them will demand payment I would suggest the transfer of the Amount to the Credit of said depositors to the Credit of Profit + Loss acct.

Very respectfully
Your Obt Svt.
(Signed) James Brewer
Treasurer

To S. L. Smith Esq
1st auditor of the Treasury Dept.
Washington

Extract

Treasury Department
First Auditors Office
April 26th 1854

James Brewer Esq
Treasurer Br Mint
New Orleans.

Sir,

+ + + + + + + + + + + + +

In regard to the Deposites of Silver Bullion

made previous to 1st Jany 1854 and during the year 1850 payment of which you say will not probably be demanded I have thought proper to refer the Subject to the Director of the U. S. Mint who will advise you as to the Manner of disposing of the Same.

Very respectfully
Your Obt. Svt.
(Signed) T. L. Smith
Auditor

Copy

Mint of the U. States
Philadelphia April 28th 1854

Sir,

The 1st Auditor of the Treasury has refered to me, the letter of the Treasurer of your Mint, to him of the 20th Instant in regard to Silver parted from Gold deposits during the year 1850. before Silver so parted was allowed to depositors, amounting to $29.36/100

As the depositors will have a claim upon the U. States for the amount standing to their Credit on the books of your Treasury, and may some day come forward to present it, you will please direct the Treasurer to pass these amounts to the credit of "Bullion deposit Profit & Loss" so that they may be transfered to the Treasury of the U. States if not called for within three Months.

If public notice has not been given in the Papers, You will please have an advertisement as follows inserted in a New Orleans Paper forthwith.

U. States Branch Mint, New Orleans

The following amounts have been standing on the Books of the Treasurer of the New Orleans Branch Mint Since 1850 to the Credit of the persons whose names are annexed, and will be passed into the Treasury of the United States, if not called for within three Months from

this date.

Very respectfully
Signed C Jas Rob. Saunders
Director

To Chas Bienvenu Esq
Supt Branch Mint
New Orleans.

April 20th:, 6.

Sir:

I have the honor to present for your consideration the enclosed copies of letters, one from the Superintendent and the other from the Melter and Refiner of the branch mint at New Orleans - requesting a leave of absence for the latter officer to enable him to close up some private business in Europe.

In view of Mr. Bonzano's long period of faithful service to the government as Melter & Refiner of that institution, and of the fact that during his absence the department under his immediate charge will be intrusted to the care of a foreman of competency and integrity, I have to recommend that you will favorably consider Mr. Bonzano's application, and extend to him the permission desired.

I have the honor to be,
With great regard,
Your faithful servant:
James Ross Snowden.
Director:

Hon: James Guthrie
Secretary of Treasury,
Washington City:

U. S. Branch Mint. New Orleans.
Melter & Refiner's Office.
April 11th 1855.

Dear Sir.

It has been my intention, for several years past, to apply for a leave of absence to enable me to go to Europe in order to finally settle and arrange some family business, of some importance to different members of my family and myself. In the year 1853 I applied to the then Superintendent R. M. McAlpin Esq. for this purpose, who referred the subject to the Director. Notwithstanding his actions, I proceeded, at the suggestion and with the permission of the Supt. to Philadelphia with the intention of presenting my case personally to the Director, and if need be to the Department at Washington. Just before reaching Philadelphia I saw in the newspapers that a new Superintendent, Biner and Assayer had been appointed to this Mint, and under these circumstances, I deemed it my duty to return without delay, so that I might assist the newly appointed Officers to the best of my ability, and thus gave up my intended voyage.

I would now respectfully request you to inform the Director, that I desire to absent myself during the space of about four months, if, in your opinion, such an absence would not interfere with the efficiency of my department, or conflict with established Customs and regulations.

Very Respectfully,
Your Obt. Servt.
(signed) M. F. Bonzano
Melter & Refiner.

Chas Bienvenu Esq.
Superintendent.

United States Branch Mint.
New Orleans, April 18th 1855.

Sir,

I hereby enclose a letter of Dr. M. F. Bonzano Melter & Refiner of this Branch Mint addressed to me for the purpose of obtaining a leave of absence during four months. His intention is to go to Europe in order to settle and arrange some important family business. His absence will not in any way interfere with the proper management of his department, as his foreman Mr. Thomas Tiedemann is, in my opinion fully capable of conducting his department, and is worthy of the fullest confidence.

Dr. Bonzano has been employed as Melter and Refiner in this establishment since seven years, and to my knowledge has not only fulfilled his duties with devotion and skill but at the same time has always striven to give the benefit of his profound studies and experiments to the improvement and best interests of our institution. I would be sorry if Dr. Bonzano would be compelled by the exigency of the moment to leave the Mint. The Government would thus lose one of its most faithful servants.

I therefore hope, Sir, that you will strongly support this solicitation near the Secretary of the Treasury, and obtain for him that leave of absence. May I be permitted to state, that in my opinion, his long and useful services to the government entitle him to that favor.

Very Respectfully.
Your Ob. Servant.
(signed) Chas Dienvenue
Supt.

Col. James R. Snowden
Director U. S. Mint
Philadelphia

To Secretary of Treasury.

April 20, 1855.

Enclosing Copies of letters of Supt. & M.R. New Orleans branch asking leave of absence for Lieut. and recommend the application to be granted.

Treasury Department
April 21. 1855.

Sir

I have received your's of the 20th covering copies of letters addressed to you by the Superintendent of the Branch Mint at N. Orleans asking for leave of absence for the Melter and Refiner at the Branch.

You are authorised to grant the leave asked for under the circumstances - you being satisfied as to the tried capacity and fidelity of the officer who is to be placed in charge of the duties of Mr. Bodgano the performance of which it is understood is not to involve any claim against the United States.

I am very Resp.

James Guthrie
Sec of the Treasury

J. R. Snowden Esq
Director of Mint
Phila.

From Secretary of Treasury.

April 23, 58.

Grants instruction for leave of absence to Dr. Bonzano (Mint & Refinery at New-Orleans) I being satisfied his department will be entrusted in his absence to a competent person

April 28th 60

Sir:

Your letter of the 23d inst., enclosing application of Mr. Bonzano, your Melter and Refiner, for leave of absence to visit Europe, has been received.

Inasmuch as you express confidence in the competency and integrity of the foreman in whose charge it is proposed to leave the Melting and Refining department of your Branch during the absence of Mr. Bonzano, the Secretary of the Treasury, upon my recommendation, has extended to Mr. Bonzano the leave of absence desired by him.

I am, very respectfully,
Your's, &c.

James Pollock
Director.

Charles Bienvenu Esq.
Supt. Branch U.S. Mint
New Orleans La.

P.S. The Secretary remarks in his letter assenting to Mr. Bonzano's application, that the performance of the duties of the Melter & Refiner by the foreman "it is understood, is not to involve any claim against the U. States."

To/ Supt. Branch Mint U.S.
New-Orleans.

April 23, 55.

Permission to Mr. Bonzano (melter & Refiner) of absence to go to Europe.

United States Branch Mint,

New Orleans, April 23rd 1855.

Sir,

Please find enclosed the Statement of the Condition of this Branch Mint at the close of the week ending on the 21st of April 1855.

Very Respectfully

Chs. Dimon

Sup.t

Col. James R. Snowden

Director U. S. Mint

Philadelphia

From Supt. Branch Mint at
New Orleans.

April 30th, 1855.

Statements for week ending
with the 21 inst:

NEW ORLEANS, 1855 (CONT.)

United States Branch Mint,

New Orleans, May 1st 1855.

Sir,

I have received copies of your correspondence with the Department deciding the question which has unfortunately been raised between myself and the Coiner.

This has not been the first time, that I have had good cause to complain of the Conduct of the Coiner, I hope it will be the last.

If the letter of Mr. Shedd to you relative to this difficulty is not confidential, I will beg of you, to be kind enough, to send me a copy of the same; for I am at a loss to know, what business this gentleman had to interfere in a matter entirely official.

As for me, Sir, I assure you that my Conduct will always be guided by the regulations governing the Mint & its Branches, and shall always endeavor to carry out the wishes of the Department and to promote the interests of our institution.

Your letter extending to Mr. Morgans the leave of absence desired by him, has been received yesterday.

Please find enclosed the Statement of the Coinage

of this Branch Mint, at the close of the week ending on the 28th April 1855.

Very Respectfully
Your Obt. Servt
Chs. Bienvenu
Supt.

Col. James R. Snowden
Director U. S. Mint
Philadelphia

From Supt. Branch Mint
New Orleans.

May 8th, 55.

Receipt of mine communicating the decision of the question at issue between the Supt. & Coiner. Requests copy of Mr. Slidell's letter to me relative to that matter.

Encloses weekly statement to April 28 of the condition of his branch.

United States Branch Mint,

New Orleans, May 1st 1855.

Sir,

I beg leave to enclose you abstracts of the Silver purchase profit & loss, and bullion deposit profit & loss; also Statement of the quarterly expenditures of this Branch Mint, Statements of the deposits and Coinage and of Coins reserved for apaying during last March, and the usual weekly Statement for the week ending March 31. 1855.

The apay Coins were forwarded on April 5th ult.

These documents were laid on my desk among other papers, and they escaped my notice. Please accept my apology for not having forwarded them before.

I hope this delay has not occasioned you any trouble.

With great respect
your ob.t serv.t
Ch. Monroe
Sup.t

Col. James R. Snowden
Director U.S. Mint. Phila

From Supt: Branch Mint
New Orleans:

May 8th/55.

Enclosing Statements Silver & Bullion Spent
Profit & Loss Acc., Mark by Statement Stock
31st Deficits &c. & reserved coins of March and
of Expenditures in 1st quarter.

United States Branch Mint,

New Orleans, May 2d 1855.

Sir

Enclosed please find the usual Monthly Statement of deposits & Coinage of this Branch Mint.

Owing to the cessation of operations in the Coining department, caused by the erection of new machinery &c, no transfers of Coins have been made during the past month.

Very Respectfully
Your obt. serv.t
Ch. Bienvenu
Supt.

Col. James R. Snowden
Director U. S. Mint
Philadelphia

From.
Supt at Muskeam

Enclosing monthly
Statements for Expr

May 10, 1855

May 2. 57

Sir,

I have not yet had the pleasure of receiving the usual monthly Statement of the Operations of your branch Mint for the Month of March—a statement of the coins reserved for the Annual Assay (which were duly received) is also wanting. Be pleased to forward these Statements at your convenience.

I am, very Respectfully
James Ross Snowden.
Director.

Charles Breinveney Esqr.
Supt. Br. Mint
New Orleans
La.

To

de Benavent Esqr

Supt. Br. Mint

ask for Monthly

Statement for March

1855.

May 2. 1855

May 1855

Branch Mint of the U. S.

Coining Department

New Orleans May 8th 1855

Sir,

The enclosed is a correspondence with the Secretary of the Treasury relative to the controversy which took place between the Superintendent and myself has been communicated to me by the Hon. John Slidell

I cheerfully submit it to the decision of the question.

Please to accept in duplicate and officially my most sincere thanks for the form in which that decision has been given and conveyed; also, to receive the assurance that my best efforts will ever be objects to secure "that harmony in the intercourse of Officers which is so necessary in institutions of a public character to maintain"

As an act of justice to the Hon. John Slidell, I beg leave to call your attention upon that part of your letter to the Secretary of the Treasury dated

April 9th 1855, which reads thus: "I inclose for your examination the communication I have received from these Officers - Also, a letter from the Hon Mr Slidell, who transmitted the papers of the Courier" This is an error, the papers alluded to were transmitted by me, on the 31st March ult.

I am informed by the Hon John Slidell that he has kept no copy of the letter which he had the honor to address you on the 30th March and that you would very much oblige him, should it be in your power to send him a copy of the same.

Very respectfully
your obt Servant
A J Davis

Courier

James Roy Snowden Esq
Director U.S. Mint

From. The Courier
New Orleans Miss

Acknowledging
receipt of my letter
communicating
my decision as to
the controversy between
Gens Longstreet & Hill.
I &c

Dec 12, 1863

May 8th: 65.

Sir:

Your letters both of date the 1st. inst:, with the enclosures therein stated, have been received.

While I do not feel myself at liberty to comply with your request for a copy of Mr. Slidell's letter to me in relation to the question at issue between yourself and the Coinet of your branch, I would state that you are in no way affected by the contents of the letter, either officially or personally, nor was any disposition manifested by that gentleman to compromise you in any manner to the slightest degree.

I am, very respectfully,

Yours &c:,

James Ross Snowden.

Director.

Charles Bienvenu, Esq:,
Superintendent Branch Mint,
New Orleans.

To Supt. branch Mint at
New Orleans:

May 8th. /55.

Receipt of his letters & enclosures of the 1st. inst:

Can't send him a copy of Mr. Stidley's letters relative to his dispute with the former - there is no attempt in it to affect him.

May 16, 5.

Sir,

I have received your favor of the 9th inst. with the enclosure dated.

I am pleased to learn that you are progressing in putting up your new engine and repairing the machinery, implements &c in the Coining department, which when completed, will add much to the efficiency and despatch of its operations.

I am, very Respectfully,
Your Obt. Servt.
James Ross Snowden.
Director.

Charles L. Dunbrum, Esqr.
Supt. U.S. Mint
New Orleans

United States Branch Mint,

New Orleans, May 9th 1855.

Sir,

I send herewith, Statement of the condition of this Branch Mint, at the close of the week ending May 5th 1855.

Your letter of the 2d inst. has just been handed to me. The Statements asked for, has been forwarded on the 1st inst, and the reasons for such a delay are respectfully offered to you, for my apology, in a letter of the same date.

The erection of our new engine, and the spacing of all the different pieces of machinery in the coining department, is occupying almost all our time. I found out that every thing was almost out of order and in a miserable condition. I am taking a constant care to see that every thing should be put up in a perfect construction.

Very respectfully,

Chas Nevins

Sup.t

James R. Snowden Esq.
Director U. S. Mint
Phila.

From & To.
Chas. Bienvenu Esq
Supt at New Orleans

Weekly Statement —
alterations in
coming Department

May 16, 1835.

Papers of the Lower
by Hon. Mr. Slidell
and relating to his
misunderstanding with
the Dep't.

New Orleans. 30 March 1853

Sir,

I beg leave to ask your attention to the accompanying letter from Mr. Secretary Conner of the U.S. Branch Mint of New Orleans — Mr. G — is a gentleman of high character & intelligence. I have known him for many years & have the most implicit confidence in his integrity & efficiency as a public officer. I have assured him that there could be no doubt that full opportunity would be afforded him for a proper investigation of the question now pending between him & the Superintendent of the Branch Mints.

Very Respy
Your Obdt Servt
John Nicholas

James Ross Snowden Esq.
Director U.S. Mint
Philadelphia

From
Hon. Jno. Slidell
New Orleans
La

Enclosing a letter
from the Coiner of
the N. Orleans Mint N.O.
& asks that he
may have a
fair investigation
of the controversy
between him & the
Supt.

Ap 6, 1858

Branch Mint of the United States

New Orleans, 22d March 1850

Coining Department

Sir,

I have now under consideration your letter of the 21st inst, in answer to which I respectfully beg leave to say:

That having heard unofficially, and from different sources, that the new Steam Engine ordered for the Coining Department had arrived from the North, I naturally expected to receive from you the instructions required, in order to attend to the landing, hanling and receiving of the same. I regret however to say that I was sadly disappointed in my expectations

The only action taken on the subject by the Superintendent having reference to the Department placed under my immediate charge and responsibility, came to my knowledge through Mr. Palmer, my foreman, who informed me that you had instructed him (and here I quote from your letter) "to procure the services of several laborers to take in the Mint the Machinery which is now being discharged from the Ship and Steam

him to attend to the business in person"

It had been customary at this Branch Mint, whenever the Superintendent desires any work to be performed in any one of the several Departments, to instruct accordingly the Officer concerned in order that his wishes should be carried into execution; but in this particular instance, the only one on record in the history of this Branch Mint, the instructions of the Superintendent instead of being, as heretofore, directed to the proper and responsible Officer, were communicated to one of his subordinates.

As soon as the above mentioned facts came to my knowledge, I requested Mr Palms, my foreman, to inform you that although I objected to the form under which your had been pleased to give your instructions yet, I was ready to take charge of the New Engine and to comply with whatever instructions you might deem proper to give me on the subject.

I was immediately afterwards informed by Mr Palms, that your only answer to my recent and request, was a peremptory refusal, made by you, to give any instructions to the Coiner or to have any thing to do with him.

Such are the facts communicated to me and which I stand ready to prove by incontrovertible evidence.

The Superintendent will at once perceive that the charge brought against me of being rude insubordinate and disrespectful is altogether gratuitous

and falls to the ground.

On the contrary, I sincerely believe that, if any measure is calculated to create insubordination among the workmen of the Mint and disrespect towards the Officers of the different Departments, it is the adoption of a rule which would authorize the Superintendent to direct his instructions to a subordinate workman in preference to an Officer of the Government.

I respectfully demand that a duly certified copy of this my answer to your letter of yesterday, be transmitted by you to the Secretary of the Treasury

I am respectfully

Your obt. Servt.

A. J. Guiros

Coiner

To Pierson Esq

Superintendent

answer of the Coroner to
the Superintendent.

United States Branch Mint
New-Orleans March 21 1855

Sir,

On yesterday I gave instructions to Mr. Palms, the Foreman of the Coining department, to procure the services of several Labourers to take in the Mint the Machinery which is now being discharged from the ship — and directed him to attend to the business in person. I understand that with a full knowledge of my instructions, you thought fit to give contrary orders to Mr. Palms.

Considering your conduct insubordinate & disrespectful to me, your superior officer, I shall at once report you to the Secretary of the Treasury

Very respectfully

(Signed) Chs. Bienvenu
Supt.

A. I. Guirot Esq.
Coiner

Branch Mint of the United States
New Orleans 22d. March 1855
Coining Department.

Sir,

I have now under consideration your letter of the 21st. inst., in answer to which I respectfully beg leave to say:

That having heard unofficially and

from different sources, that the New Steam Engine ordered for the Coining Department had arrived from the North, I naturally expected to receive from you the instructions required in order to attend to the landing, hauling and receiving of the same. I regret however to say, that I was sadly disappointed in my expectations.

The only action taken on the subject by the Superintendent having reference to the Department placed under my immediate charge and responsability, came to my Knowledge through Mr. Palms, my Foreman, who informed me that you had instructed him (and here I quote from your letter) "to procure the services of several labourers to take in the Mint the Machinery which is now being discharged from the Ship and directed him to attend to the business in person"

It has been customery at this Branch Mint whenever the Superintendent desires any work to be performed in any one of the Several Departments, to instruct accordingly the Officer concerned, in order that his wishes should be carried into execution, but in this particular instance, the only one on record in the history of this Branch Mint, the instructions of the Superintendent instead of being, as heretofore, directed to the proper and responsible

Officer, were communicated to one of his Subordinates

As soon as the above mentioned facts came to my Knowledge, I requested Mr. Palms, my foreman, to inform you that although I objected to the form under which you had been pleased to issue your instructions, yet, I was ready to take charge of the New Engine and to comply with whatever instruction you might deem proper to give me on the Subject.

I was immediately afterwards informed by Mr. Palms, that your only answer to my views and request, was a peremptory refusal, made by you, to give any instructions to the Coiner or to have any thing to do with him.

Such are the facts communicated to me and which I stand ready to prove by incontrovertible evidence.

The Superintendent will at once perceive, that the charge brought against me of being insubordinate and disrespectful, is altogether gratitious, and falls to the ground.

On the contrary, I sincerely believe that, if any measure is calculated to create insubordination among the workmen of the Mint and disrespect towards the Officers of the different Departments, it is the adoption of a rule which would authorize the Superintendent

intendent to direct his instructions to a subordinate workman in preference to an Officer of the Government.

I respectfully demand that a Duly certified Copy of this, my answer to your letter of yesterday, be transmitted to the Secretary of the Treasury.

I am very respectfully

(signed) A. J. Guirot

Coiner

Chs Bienvenu Esq

Superintendent.

Branch Mint of the United States

New Orleans 29th March 1855

Coining Department.

Sir,

On the 22d inst., the very day on which I answered your letter of the Day previous, I was informed by Mr Palms, my foreman, that he had been summoned to appear before you, in order to answer to, and sign in presence of the Melter and Refiner and of the Treasurer, certain interrogatories propounded by you and more or less connected with our present official correspondance; to all of which Mr Palms objected, upon the ground that he was unwilling to say or to sign and thing out of my hearing and presence. But

Mr Palms having received from you the assurance that his declaration would be communicated to me, did then, upon the faith of that assurance, comply with your request.

Seven days have now nearly elapsed since these unusual proceedings have taken place and, as yet, I have neither received an answer to my letter of the 22d inst, nor have I been put in possession of a certified copy of the declaration made at your request by Mr Palms.

I therefore respectfully take the liberty of asking you the reasons which have, up to the present day, delayed your answer to my letter of the 22d inst, and prevented you from sending me a copy of the declaration made by Mr Palms.

And although, from the known character of Mr Palms, I am satisfied that he has answered the truth to the few questions propounded to him, yet the whole truth might perhaps have been more fully developed, had I been offered an opportunity to be present during this examination, or had his statements been otherwise submitted to me.

I therefore protest against the course the Superintendent has deemed convenient to pursue in this matter;

against this or all future ex-parte examination of witnesses and against the tenor of all written communication already made or which may hereafter be made by him, either to the Director of the U. S. Mint or to the Secretary of the Treasury, directly or indirectly connected with the present controversy and of which a duly certified copy has not been or shall not be officially transmitted to me.

We are actuated, Sir, by the common purpose of subserving the best interests of the Department of the Government committed to our charge by a conscientious fulfilment of our respective duties. For my part, I candidly avow the belief that these interests require on your side, the course which I have respectfully invited you to pursue, and that they would be seriously prejudiced by that spirit of insubordination which would attend my being superceded in my appropriate functions, by a direct communication of orders from the Superintendent to the persons employed under me.

When these views shall have been communicated to the Director of the U. S. Mint, I hesitate not

in believing that they will command his entire concurrence; but should he, unfortunately for me, differ in his opinion, it will impose upon me the disagreable consciousness that my Department will no longer be able to display that efficiency which I flatter myself, my previous efforts have not been unsuccessful in imparting to it

I trust, Sir, that I will soon received from you the information required and that you will please transmit to the proper authority, a certified copy of the present letter and protest.

Very respectfully

(signed) A. J. Guirot

Coiner

Chs Bienvenu Esq

Superintendant.

United States Branch Mint

New Orleans March 29th 1858

Sir,

I have received your letter of this date, in answer to which I have to State that the matter referred to is in the hands of the Director of the Mint at Philadelphia and that I

I desire to have no communication with you, except those connected with the operations of the coining department.

Please find inclosed your letter

Very respectfully

(signed) Ch. Bienvenu

Supt.

A. J. Guirot Esq

Coiner

I, the undersigned Do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy from the Records of my Office. In faith whereof I give these presents under my signature and seal of Office, at the Branch Mint of the United States, New Orleans, this 31st day of March, in the Year of our Lord 1855

A. J. Guirot

Coiner

NATIONAL TELEGRAPH

LINES TO

PITTSBURGH, CINCINNATI, LOUISVILLE, ST. LOUIS, CHICAGO, NEW ORLEANS,

AND ALL INTERMEDIATE PLACES,

Office, No. 101 Chestnut Street, Second Story, Rear Room,

PHILADELPHIA.

30

Dated at New Orleans Mch 30 1853

To J R Snowden

U S Mint

Important documents will be transmitted to you by to-morrow mail. Please suspend all action upon certain matters.

A. J. Guérot-Loisser

17/ 132 pd

Rec 31

Branch Mint of the United States

New Orleans, March 31st 1855

Coining Department

Sir,

The nature of a controversy which has lately taken place between the Superintendent and myself, having required that I should, in vindication of what I consider to be my undisputable rights, protest against the course pursued by that Officer;

And the Superintendent having peremptorily refused to have any more communication with me on the subject, and unceremoniously returning me the letter and protest which I had addressed him with the request of forwarding a copy of the same to you, as Director of the U.S. Mint;

Deprived therefore, by the act of the Superintendent, of the faculty of bringing to your notice, through the proper channel, some of the facts connected with said

controversy;

I accordingly find myself compelled to communicate directly with you, Sir, and to submit to your particular consideration, and without comment, the inclosed true copy of the correspondence which, so far, has taken place between the Superintendent and myself upon the matter at issue

Very respectfully

A. J. Dallas

Comr

James Ross Snowden Esq

Director of the U. S. Mint

From. The Comer
B. Mint
N. Orleans

Papers connected
with his controversy
with the Supt

Apr 7, 1853

Papers transmitted by the Supt at St. Louis relating to the misunderstanding between him & the Courier.

United States Branch Mint,

New Orleans, March 24th 1855.

Sir

A sense of duty compels me to lay before you a matter of difficulty which has occurred in the last few days between the Coiner Mr. A. L. Guirot & myself, and as I have borne his annoyances so many times, I can not allow the occurrence which took place on the 20th inst. to pass without bringing it to your notice, it being of a nature so insubordinate and disrespectful, and so contrary to the regulations of this Branch Mint. The facts are these:

The new Engine constructed at Springfield being about to be deposited in the Yard of the Mint, and I, waiting for Mr. Philos. D. Tyler, whose services I had engaged to put it up for Mr. Guirot the Coiner being entirely ignorant of machinework and altogether incompetent to direct the operation, I instructed Mr. A. Palmer, the Foreman of the Coining Department to procure the services of several laborers to take into the Mint the

Machinery which was laying in the Yard. and requested him at the same time to give his personal attention to the matter for the purpose of safely depositing the different boxes into the Mint, until the arrival of Mr. Thos. R. Tyler, whom I was expecting every hour. The next morning having sent for Mr. A. Palms and having asked him if he had carried out my instructions; his answer was: "No sir, the Coiner has ordered me to have nothing to do with the machinery and has forbidden me to obey your instructions" (as will appear by the Statement of Mr. Palms herewith annexed.) Whereupon, I wrote a letter to the Coiner (herein enclosed) informing him that his conduct would be reported to you; and to my letter I enclose the answer of the Coiner.

It appears, that the only argument of the Coiner, for assuming such a course of action, was the belief on his part, that I ought to have called upon him to take charge of the machinery. As a general rule the Coiner has nothing to do, with anything whatever coming for the use of his department until officially placed under his care by the Superintendent, and in this case it was the very thing I wished to avoid (the Coiner not being able to

United States Branch Mint,

New Orleans, 185

establish the difference between one piece of machinery and another,) until the engine be put up by competent hands, and than placed under the direction of the Chief Engineer.

It seems to me, Sir, that the Coiner has always misunderstood his position in this establishment. I beg leave to quote from the regulations establishing this Branch Mint, the duties of the Coiner. The Law says. — "The Chief Coiner shall ope-
"rate all the operations which are necessary in order
"to form Coins, conformable in all respects to the Law,
"from the Standard Silver & Gold ingots and the Copper
"planchets, legally delivered to him for this purpose."

Now, Sir, had the Coiner any right to oppose my instructions to his foreman, more particularly in a matter entirely unconnected with his department? I believe not. And to justify my action in this matter, allow me, Sir, to call your attention to the 2d section of the Mint act of Jan. 18. 1837 which says:

"The Director has control and management

of the Mint and superintendence of the officers and persons employed therein; and by the 5th section of the Branch Mint act, it is declared, that all laws and part of laws made for the Regulation of the Mint of the United States, and for the Government of the officers and persons employed therein, shall be in full force in relation to the Branches.

Heretofore, Sir, I have always given my instructions to the officers in relation to what I desired to be done in the different departments, but in the case above mentioned, was I not justifiable in calling for the services of any of the persons employed in the Mint, more particularly, when I had first inquired of Mr. Palms himself, if his time could be spared for the occasion specified. In supposing even, Sir, that the coiner had some remarks to make in regard to my orders, was it not his duty to make them known to me, instead of assuming a tone of arrogance, disrespect and insubordination, and by so doing, setting a deplorable example of disobedience among the other officers, clerks and coppers.

Since my appointment as superintendent of this Branch Mint, it has been my good fortune

to have always had the most friendly and agreable relations with the Treasurer, Melter & Refiner, Assayer & Clerks as well as gentlemen as officers. I have always found them ready and willing to consult me about the best interests of our establishment & to comply with my instructions; while I am sorry to say, the Coiner has constantly evinced a disposition to create difficulties.

I am sorry, Sir, that such a controversy should have occurred between an officer of this Mint & myself; but for the proper discipline and the good management of this establishment, I deem it my duty to report to you what I believe to be wrong, leaving to you to take such measures as your experience your wisdom and your devotion to the government will dictate.

Very Respectfully
your obedient servant.
Chas Bierwert
Supt.

Col. James R. Snowden
Director U. S. Mint
Philadelphia

From.
Supt at New Orleans
Br. Mint

Respecting a
charge of insubordi-
nation on the part
of the Coiner

Mar 31, 1835

Same day
Directors Approval-
agreement filed herewith

March 31 1815.

Sir,

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 24th inst with the enclosures stated. I have also received a letter dated Saturday from the Comptroller Mr Smith in which he states that he has sent to you by Mail some papers on the subject of your Communication. When they are received I will give the point in question my immediate attention and make an early Communication to you.

Very Respectfully

James Rosekrans
Director

Charles Pinckney Esqr
Supt
Branch Bank
New Orleans.

(Copy)

United States Branch Mint,

New Orleans, March 21st 1855.

Sir,

On yesterday I gave instructions to Mr Palms, the Foreman of the Coining department, to procure the services of several laborers to take in the Mint the Machinery which is now being discharged from the ship, and directed him to attend to the business in person. I understand that with a full knowledge of my instructions, you thought fit to give contrary orders to Mr Palms.

Considering your conduct insubordinate and disrespectful to me, your superior officer, I shall at once report you to the Secretary of the Treasury.

Very Respectfully

Chas Reinecke

Supt.

A. J. Guirot Esq.

Coiner.

Letter of the Superintendent
to the coiner.

United States Branch Mint,

New Orleans, March 21. 1855.

I, A. Palmes, foreman of the coining department, in presence of James Reed Treasurer & F. M. Boyard melter & Refiner do declare:

That, being instructed by Chs. Dimmock Esq, Superintendent of this Mint to procure the services of several laborers to take into the Mint a new machinery, which was laying in the Yard did not complied with the orders of the Superintendent, because having informed Mr. A. J. Guirot, the coiner, in a conversation of said orders, the coiner told him that he knew nothing of the arrival of that machinery, and that he the (coiner) has received no instructions about the matter, and that he Mr. Palmes, had better attend his own business, for he (Mr. Palmes) could not be responsible, in case the machinery should be damaged.

That Mr. A. J. Guirot forbid Mr. Palmes to have any thing to do with the machinery, and that it was after the orders of A. J. Guirot.

the coiner, that he Palmer did not obey the instructions of the superintendent.

James Brewer P.M.S.B.M.E. A. Palmer Jun

M. E. Bonzano
Assistant Assayer.

I, A. Palmer do declare that previous receiving instructions from Mr. Chas. Bierwirth, Superintendent of this Branch Mint, to procure the services of several laborers to take into the Mint the machinery laying in the yard, and attend to the business in person. I was asked by the Superintendent, if I could do so, without inconvenience to the coining department, I answer, Yes.

A. Palmer Jun

Witness
James Brewer
Treasurer

M. E. Bonzano
Assistant Assayer

From Supt at Neworleans

As to misunderstanding with the Louisiana

March 31, 1855

Enclosure to Mr. Pike's communication of the 31st March 1855

Treasury Department
May 11. 1855.

Sir

In compliance with your request I herewith return the papers submitted by you in relation to the difficulty between the Superintendent and Coiner at the Branch Mint at N. Orleans.

I am very Respt
P. G. Washington.
Actg. Sec of the Treasury.

S. Roy Browder Esq.
Philadelphia.

From.
Act. Sec. of Treasury
Washington

Returns the papers
relating to the late
difficulty between
the Supt Mint
of the U.S. Mint
New Orleans

May 12, 1880

To.
Act. Sec of the Treasury
Washington

Transmitting Branch
Mint Statement for
~~March~~ April 1855

May 12 1855

May 14th 65.

Sir,

I am informed by the Comptroller of the Treasury that much trouble arises, in the adjustment of your Treasurers Bullion accounts from the abstracts being sent in a loose or separate form; and he requests that instructions be given to forward them hereafter bound in book form as are those sent from this Mint.

I will thank you to cause the abstracts to be forwarded hereafter as above indicated. In explanation of our practise I may state that we prepare two bound volumes, one containing the calculation sheets of gold deposits, with the abstract of gold bullion deposited for coinage, and abstracts of paid & unpaid. In the other we include the silver calculation sheets and all other abstracts. You need not however, necessarily adopt this order, as the object will be secured if the sheets and abstracts are forwarded in any bound form so as to be easy of reference and secured from being mislaid. The binder should be cautioned not to cut the edges.

Very respectfully,

James Ross Snowden.
Director.

Charles Bienvenu Esqr
Supt U.S. Mint New Orleans
3

May 14. 5

Sir,

I have to acknowledge your favor of yesterday and to state, that the attention of the Superintendent of the Branch Mint at New Orleans has been called to the manner in which the Treasurer's Bullion accounts have been presented, and the necessary instructions and explanations given to render hereafter these being transmitted in book form, by which the inconvenience alluded to in your letter will be avoided.

I am, very Respectfully
Your Obt. Servt.
James Pollock
Director.

Hon. Elisha Whittlesey
First Comptroller
Treasury Department
Washington City

Treasury Department
Comptroller's Office
May 12th 1855

J. R. Snowden Esq.
Director of the United States Mint
Philadelphia. Pennsylvania.

Sir

The account of the Treasurer of the Branch Mint at New Orleans, of Gold and Silver Bullion for the 4th Quarter of 1854 has been adjusted at this Department, and much unnecessary trouble and delay, caused by all the abstracts being in a loose & separate form.

If bound in book form, as are those from the Mint at Philadelphia, it would greatly facilitate the examination of the account, besides avoiding the liability of being lost or mislaid, to which they are subject as at present rendered.

By giving instructions to the above effect to the Treasurer of the Branch Mint at New Orleans, you would oblige this Office—

Most Sincerely Yours
Elisha Whittlesey
Comptroller

Tom. to Jo

Elisha Whitney

Comptroller N.Y.

Rel to accounts of

the Treasurer of the

Mint at Orleans -

complains of the loose

character in which

they are put up. desires

me to give necessary

instructions &c

May 14th 1837

Directors Acknowledgmt

instructions to Supt. at

N Orleans filed

herewith

May 14th 57

Dear Sir,

I have received your favor of the 5th inst and notice with great satisfaction the cheerful and prompt manner in which you express your acquiescence in the decision of the Board which arose between the Superintendent and yourself and that you will put forth your best efforts to restore and maintain that harmony of official intercourse which is necessary in such institutions and others of a similar character.

I have noticed that I was not precisely accurate in stating that your papers were transmitted to me by the Hon Mr Slidell. Mr Slidell only inclosed to me one of your letters. This slight inaccuracy is however unimportant especially as I forwarded all the letters to the Treasury Department.

As requested by Mr Slidell, the receipt you, I enclose herewith a copy of his letter to me on the subject in question, which you will please hand to him.

I am, very Respectfully
Your obt. servant,

A. J. Guiot Esq.
Chief Coiner. Branch Mint,
New Orleans, La

James Ross Snowden
Director U. S. Mint.

Copy

New Orleans 30. March 1850.

Sir,

I beg leave to ask your attention to the accompanying letter from Mr. Guion Coiner of the U.S. Branch Mint New Orleans — Mr. G — is a gentleman of high character an intelligence. I have known him for many years and have the most implicit confidence in his integrity & efficiency as a public Officer. I have assured him that there could be no doubt that full opportunity would be afforded him for a proper investigation of the question now pending between him and the Superintendent of the Branch Mint.

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Svt.
(Signed) John Riddell

James Ross Snowden, Esqr.
Director U.S. Mint
Philadelphia

To. ~~Dr~~ Comer

U.S. Branch Mint
New Orleans

Enclose copy
of Hon Mr. Rhodes
Letter.

May 14. 1855

Treasury Department
May 14. 1855.

Sir

The Department deems it expedient, in view of the necessary interruption in the operations of the Branch Mint at N. Orleans caused by the introduction of New Machinery - and of the large accumulation of Silver there, to suspend any further purchases of silver and the necessary instructions have been sent to the Treasurer by Telegraph this day.

I am very Respt.
A. G. Washington
Act. Sec of the Treasury

J. R. Snowden Esq
Director of the Mint
Philada

From Hon. P. G. Washington
Asst Sec. Treas

informs me that
the purchase of silver
at New Orleans has
been suspended for
reasons stated

May 17. 1853

No 17.

The Disposition contained in your Letter of Yesterday is very proper under the circumstances, and I have accordingly ordered the Superintendant at New Orleans to employ his Attention upon Vessels suitable to the Service of half Galleys and otherwise dismantled.

By my Letter of the 17th & 22d of June 1808 and the last Paragraph in the Letter of the 3d of Feb. last I presumed some Vessels might then be in Commission in the Mediterranean at New Orleans, but, on Enquiry, am informed of having so at in Lake Pont. The Gun Vessels of New Orleans are on hand at the Navy Yard and may be fitted for Service. The Gun Boats at Pont Lake are in Ordinary for the Winter, & proposed to employ the Superintendant. If you conceive it will be beneficial to have Gun Boats at the Lake, they can be established, but that the Regular Navy should be made in Lake Pont only. This will be some Inconvenience to the Officers of New Orleans, and as it is probable that Gun Boats on the Lake will be made the most by frequent Voyages and

payment & secure the amount on hand.
Under it will probable the Treasury [illegible]
called on to pay for [illegible].

I have the honor to be
with great respect
Your obt Servt
James Rob[illegible]
Collector.

Hon James [illegible]
Secy of the Treasury
Washington City.

To.
Hon. James Guthrie
Sec Treas

Purchase of Silver
Bullion at
New Orleans,

May 19. 1855

United States Branch Mint,

New Orleans, May 22d 1855.

Sir,

I have the pleasure to enclose the Statement of the Condition of this Branch Mint, at the close of the week ending May 19th 1855.

Very Respectfully,

Chs Bienvenu

Supt

Col. James R. Snowden,

Director U. S. Mint

Philadelphia

United States Branch Mint,

New Orleans, May 23. 1855.

Sir,

I beg leave to enclose to you a letter of the Treasurer of this Branch Mint, the object of which is fully explained. After due consideration of the matter, please send instructions as to the course I must pursue.

Very Respectfully
your Obt. Serv.t
Chr. Bienvenu
Sup.t

Col. James R. Snowden.
Director U. S. Mint
Philadelphia

From Supt at New Orleans

M S

May 29. 1863

May 28th 5.

Sir

In a recent letter to me, the Superintendent of the Branch Mint at New Orleans, says "I have to inform you that the balance of gold Coinage on hand is barely sufficient to pay for gold deposits now due. I will you please take the necessary steps to obtain from the Secretary of the Treasury permission to transfer one hundred thousand dollars, in gold Coin, from the Sub. Treasury in this City to the Branch Mint. This amount will I think be sufficient to pay for gold deposits during the temporary suspension of the Coinage operations."

For the reasons stated by the Superintendent, the transfer seems necessary. I have therefore to request that you will cause a Warrant to be issued in favor of the Treasurer of the Branch Mint at New Orleans on the Assistant Treasurer of that City for the sum above mentioned.

I have the honor to be
with great respect
Your ob. Servant,
Samuel Root Cresson,
Director U.S. Mint.

Hon. R. J. Walker
Sec. of the Treasury.

Mint of the United States
Phil.a May 23. 1855

My Dear Sir,

In reply to your com
communication
Henry R. Linderman Esq
Prof. A. Strayer

To.

P. Ly Washington
Act. Sec. Treasy
Washington City

Requesting a Warrant
always to be issued for
100,000 on the Asst. Treasr
at N Orleans in favr
of the Bonner Mint
in that City

May 24. 1853.

Treasury Department
May 26. 1855.

Sir

Your's of the 23d. inst. has been received and the Asst. Treasurer at N Orleans has been instructed to exchange gold for silver with the Treasurer of the Branch Mint to such an amount as may be necessary to enable him to pay for Gold deposited for Coinage.

I am very Resp.

A. G. Washington
Act Sec of the Treasury.

I. R. Snowden Esq
Director of the Mint
Philada

From.

P. H. Washington Esq
Act See Treas

States that Asst.
Treas. U.S. at
N.O. has been
int. to exchange
Coin for Silver
coins with Treas
Dr Smith in that
City
May 28. 1855.

Mint of the United States,

Philadelphia, May 28, 1855.

Sir,

On the receipt of your favor of the 9th inst. I addressed a letter to the Department requesting a transfer draft to be issued on the Ass't Treasurer U.S. in your City in favor of the Treasurer of your branch for One hundred thousand dollars payable in gold coins, to which I have this day received a reply stating that "the Ass't Treasurer at New Orleans has been instructed to exchange gold for silver with the Treasurer of the Br. Mint to such an amount as may be necessary to pay for gold deposited for coinage."

I am, very Respectfully

Director.

Charles Bienvenu, Esqr,
Supt Br. Mint,
New Orleans.

To.
Supt at New Orleans

Communicating Inst.
of Department to
Asst. Treas. at N.O.
as to exchange of
Seed for Silver

24. May 1865.

United States Branch Mint,

New Orleans, May 28th 1855.

Sir,

I hereby enclose Statement of the condition of this Branch Mint, at the close of the week ending May 26th 1855.

I am informed by the Coiner, that as soon as the active operations of the Coining Department will be resumed, the following Dies shall be required.

Half Dollars Dies. 20 Heads – 15 Reverses.

Very Respectfully,

Chas. Nevers

Sup.t

Col. James R. Snowden

Director U. S. Mint

Philadelphia

The Engraver will please

note the above requisition

W.R.S.

From
Chas Benjamin
Supt. B. Mint
New Orleans

Requisition
for W.D. Lee's
Jr 4. 1855

June 1855

From.
Supt at New Orleans
Br Mint

Respecting amounts
standing to credit
of depositors on Assay
Books for deposits
of Silver (parted)
made prior to 1854
& before such bullion
was liable for deposits
Encloses several
letters respecting
d/a for same
May 30. 1873.

U. States Branch Mint, New Orleans

Treasurer's Office May 19th 1855

Sir,

By reference to the enclosed copies of letters, you will see that on the 20th ult. April 1854, I suggested to the First Auditor of the Treasury dept. the propriety of transferring to the credit of "Profit & Loss acct." Sundry deposits of Silver Bullion separated from Coin & sold, remaining unclaimed since 1850-51.- That the Auditor referred my letter to the Director of the U. S Mint, and that that Officer authorised me to pass said Silver deposits to the credit of "Bullion Deposit Profit & Loss acct." so that they might be transfd. to the Treasury of the United States if not called for within three months. These instructions were followed, and the 4th Treasury receipt for $910 99/100 (being the item not called for by the depositors) was forwarded to the Treasurer of the U. S. on the 30th Septr 1854. In the auditing of my accounts for the 3d Quarter of 1854, this item ($910.99) was suspended by the Comptroller for the decision of the Secretary of the Treasury who had the propriety of the transaction under consideration. I wrote to the Comptroller showing him my authority for the transfer, but as this amount has been again charged to me in my accounts of the 4th Qr. of 1854, I beg that you will lay the matter before the Director & request him to instruct me as to the course I must pursue.

Very respectfully

James Brewer
Treasr

C. Bienvenu Esq
Supt.

May 30. 5.

Sir,

On the 20th of April 1854, the Treasurer of the Branch Mint, New Orleans, addressed a letter to the First Auditor of the Treasury as to the proper disposition of the proceeds of sundry deposits of silver bullion separated from California Gold during the years 1850-51, prior to the time when such parting silver was allowed to depositors, and suggested that the amount of these deposits be transferred to the credit of "Profit & Loss Account". On the 26th of the same month this letter was referred to me by the Auditor who entertained the Opinion that the Amount should flow through "Bullion Deposit Profit & Loss account" into the Treasury of the U.S. Coinciding with this view, I instructed the Superintendent to pass the several amounts to the credit of the last named account that the same might subsequently be ~~transferred~~ paid into the Treasury of the U.S. I also directed him at the same time to cause the following advertisement to be inserted in a New Orleans paper viz;

U. States Branch Mint New Orleans

The following amounts have been standing on the Books of the Treasurer of the New Orleans Branch Mint since 1850 to the credit of the persons whose names are annexed, and will be passed into the Treasury of the U. States

if not called for within three months from this date." In compliance with these instructions the Sum of $910.99 (being amount not called for by depositors) was paid into the Office of the Asst. Treas. U.S. at New Orleans on the 30th Sept 1854 and his receipt for the Same forwarded to the Treasurer of the U.S. The Treasurer of the Br. Mint in a letter dated 19th inst. States that in the auditing of his Accounts for 3d Qr 1854 this item was suspended by the Comptroller for your decision & that the Amount has been again charged to him in his A/c of the 4th Qr. 1854. Under these circumstances he now desires instructions as to the course he shall pursue.

Please inform me of your views of the transaction in question that I may give in accordance with the Same, the necessary directions to the Superintendent.

I may add that the principal reason for disposing of this amount as above, was that the Depositors will have & may at Some future period come forward & present a claim against the Treasurer of the Branch Mint for the Amounts Standing to their credits.

I have the honor to be,
With great respect,
Your faithful Servant

Hon. James Guthrie
Sec. Treasury
Washington

Dues

To Sec. Treasury
Washington City

Unclaimed Deposits
Silver Bullion (parted)
at U.S. Mint New
Orleans - Disposition
of the Same. Request
Sec views on
the transaction

May 3d. 1855

United States Branch Mint,

New Orleans, June 5th 1855.

Sir,

I send herewith, Statement of the Condition of this Branch Mint, at the close of the week ending June 2d 1855.

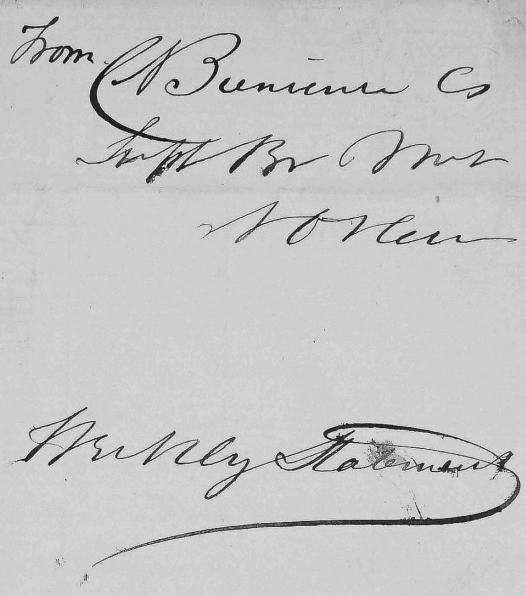
Your letter of May 28th authorizing our Treasurer to exchange Silver for Gold, with the Asst. Treasurer, has just now been received.

Very Respectfully,

Chs. Brenneman

Supt.

Col. James R. Snowden
Director U. S. Mint
Philadelphia



United States Branch Mint,

New Orleans, June 1st 1855.

Sir,

Enclosed please find Statement of deposits & Coinage at this Branch Mint during the month of May 1855.

Very respectfully

Ch. Renevey

Supt.

Col. James R. Snowden

Director U. S. Mint

Philadelphia

From,
Supt. at N Orleans

Enclosing Monthly
Statement

Jan 11. 1875

June 7. 5.

Sir,

I send you by "the Adams Expres Co." seven pair of Italy Dollar dies (No. 54 to 60 inclusive) being part of the requisition contained in your letter of the 28th ult.o The balance of the number required will be forwarded as soon as they can be got ready.

As the dies returned from your Branch appear to be finished smaller, and especially shorter, than those used here, You will please give hereafter the size of the Steel for all the dies, as You require them; that is, the diameter, and the length required for each denomination.

I am, very Respectfully
James Ross Snowden.
Director.

Charles Bienvenu, Esq.;
Supt. U.S. Mint,
New Orleans.

To
Chas. Bonnaud Esqr
Supt. U.S. Mint
New Orleans

Transmitting
to H.D. Lee
a certain
draft drawn by

Jan 7, 1855.

United States Branch Mint,

New Orleans, June 12th 1855.

Sir,

I send herewith Statement of the condition of this Branch Mint, at the close of the Week ending June 9th 1855.

Very Respectfully

Chs. Reinoehl

Sup.

Col. James R. Snowden

Director U. S. Mint

Philadelphia

From Supt
at Santa Maria

Transmits Monthly
Statement

19 Dec 1877